

emayel optimistic on Israeli pullout

ASHINGTON (R) — Lebanon's new President Amin Gemayel said Sunday he hoped all foreign forces would be out of his country within a few weeks, and hinted at the possibility of a peace treaty with Israel. Interviewed in Beirut by the U.S. ABC Television network, Mr. Gemayel also repeated earlier denials that Lebanese Forces were involved in last week's massacre of Palestinians at two west Beirut refugee camps and said he had ordered an investigation. "No orders were given to Lebanese Forces or the Christian militia to be where those massacres were," he said. The president told the interviewer the Lebanese parliament and not he alone must decide whether Lebanon signed a peace treaty with Israel, but he added that there was an urgent need to reach "real peace, not an artificial peace."

Jordan Times

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جوردان تايمز يومية سياسية مستقلة منشورة من قبل مؤسسة الصحافة الأردنية "الرأي"

'Eid Mubarak

The Jordan Times would like to inform its readers and advertisers that the newspaper will not appear on Sept. 28 until Oct. 1. The next issue of the Jordan Times will appear on Oct. 2. The Jordan Times wishes its readers and advertisers a happy 'Eid Al Adha and peaceful blessings of the occasion.

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Shimberg: Israel must withdraw from Beirut altogether

NEW YORK (A.P.) — Before the American Mariner and the international peace force takes on in Lebanon, Israeli forces withdraw from Beirut altogether, U.S. Secretary of Defense Casper Weinberger said Sunday. "It has already been made very clear," he said. Beirut airport is in the hands of the international force, and for Israeli forces to have to withdraw, the secretary added, "there should be no Israeli military presence in the airport and one of our conditions," he said. "The French and Italians, want Israeli forces to withdraw before they go in."

Lebanis favour massacre probe

TEL AVIV (R) — Just over half Israeli population wants a full commission inquiry into the massacre and about another quarter favours some other form of investigation, according to a poll published Sunday. 40 people interviewed for the Yedioth Aharonoth newspaper, 51 per cent said they favoured a state commission, a poll voted down in parliament on Tuesday. Another 23 per cent they favoured some other form of investigation and 25 per cent wanted no investigation at all, remaining one per cent expressed no opinion. The poll was conducted on Sept. 22-23, when cabinet refused to appoint a commission. Such a body would have full judicial powers to investigate the massacre of Palestinians in Beirut refugee camps.

Somalia reports renewed fighting

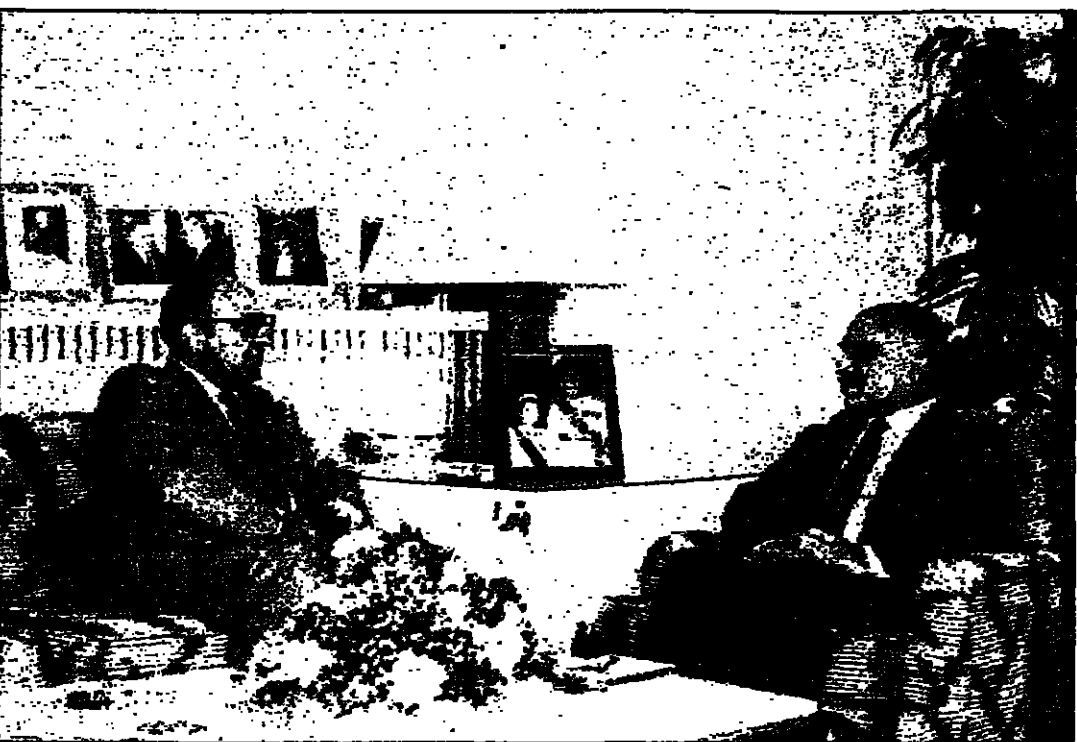
JADISHU (R) — Somalia's army said its forces killed 320 Somali soldiers and wounded 1,000 in renewed fighting along the common border with Ethiopia last week. The official Somali news agency said the fighting was in the Abudwak district of the Adush Province and that the commander of an Ethiopian force of 10 of his officers had surrendered to Somali troops. One tank, five armoured personnel carriers and various weapons and equipment captured, Sonna said. Ethiopia's troops do not participate in the fighting and that the Somali Salvation Democratic Front (SSDF) guerrillas seeking to overthrow the Somali government are alone involved.

Names dead in Beirut

WASHINGTON (R) — Four U.S. military officials, two of them U.S. majors, killed Saturday when their helicopter was shot down east of Beirut, a Pentagon spokesman said Sunday. The spokesman, who identified the other two U.S. officials as Irish and Finnish, said the accident happened 15 kilometres east of Beirut. In Jerusalem, a United Nations spokesman named four U.N. officers. They were majors all Carlson and Harley Warf of the United States, Command Michael Nestor of Ireland and Captain Karl Lasonen of Finland.

Ca sentences ball rioters

CA (R) — A martial law Sunday sentenced 54 football fans to prison terms ranging from six months to five years for a riot at a Dacca first league game last week. The television said the were charged with rioting, attacking members of law enforcement agencies and causing damage to property. They were among over 150 spectators arrested by police at the match, which was abandoned 20 minutes before the final whistle when violence broke out on the field over a referee's decision. The others arrested during the disturbances, left 12 policemen injured, so facing trial, the television



His Majesty King Hussein confers with U.S. special Middle East envoy Philip Habib who arrived Sunday on a short visit to Jordan (Petra photo)

Hussein confers with Habib

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein conferred at Al Nadwa Palace at noon Sunday with the United States Middle East envoy, Philip Habib. During the meeting they reviewed current Middle East developments in the light of Israel's invasion of Lebanon, its occupation of west Beirut, the massacres of Palestinians in Sabra and Shatila refugee camps and Mr. Habib's efforts aimed at securing a withdrawal of Israeli troops from Lebanon.

The meeting was attended by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, Prime Minister Mudar Badran, Royal Court Chief Ahmad Al Lawzi, Court Minister Amer Khammash, Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief Lt. Gen. Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker and the acting foreign minister as well as U.S. Ambassador to Jordan Richard Viets. Mr. Habib, who arrived in Amman earlier in the day is on a

Middle East tour of several countries to brief leaders on the latest developments in Lebanon, according to a U.S. embassy spokesman. The spokesman said Mr. Habib will exchange views with King Hussein on a withdrawal of all foreign forces from Lebanon, but declined to give further details. The U.S. envoy is also scheduled to visit Damascus and Cairo.

King speaks out against Israeli use of force

'Israel has no right to bargain'

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein has stressed that in accordance with the principle of inadmissibility of occupying other territories by force on which U.N. Security Council Resolution 242 is based, Israel has no right or power as an occupation force to bargain over occupied Arab land, hang on to it or prevent it from being returned to Arab sovereignty. Speaking in an interview with the West German magazine Der Spiegel, King Hussein said that Resolution 242 forms the basis of President Reagan's Middle East plan and Europe's attitude as well as that of the Soviet Union. President Reagan's plan contains some positive aspects but it also contains negative elements that need to be tackled. Yet, he said, the plan represents a new and brave move.

In the interview which was published Monday, King Hussein said that the Arab peace plan which was endorsed by Arab leaders at the Fes summit recognises the right of all parties in the region to live in peace and security. As to Jordan, "this plan implies our acceptance of Resolution 242 which we all took part in formulating, and indeed the summit had defined what Israel was expecting from the Arabs," the King said.

In reply to a question about the Camp David agreements, King Hussein said they are considered as "past events and they were incapable of solving any problem. I have always criticised these agreements not because of the minimum they had achieved, but because of the outstanding problems they had failed to solve," King Hussein said. King Hussein stressed that the major problem remains the future of the West Bank, Gaza, occupied Jerusalem and the restoration of Arab rights and land. He also expressed the view that the Fes Arab summit has brought about an Arab harmony and in this itself, he said, was a major achievement. The Arab League, King Hussein said has achieved a consensus among Arab countries on the subject of establishing peace and had tackled the subject of the holy places and the rights of all three monotheistic religions to these places. This Arab stand, he added, had been the "fruit of long and hard work over the past months... and it was definitely not in reply to the American plan."

"We are exerting all efforts to enter into a dialogue with the United States with the purpose of obtaining clarifications about certain points contained in President Reagan's plan" and to enable Washington to play its major role in establishing peace, King Hussein said. No compromise However, he said, there is no room for compromise as to the Arab position "because it contains the minimal and maximal Arab stand, and it represents the only Arab stand that can be adopted."

Asked about the prospect of the two superpowers taking a joint action in the future, King Hussein cited the events of 1956 when the two big powers reached an understanding over their action and the result was clear, namely, the withdrawal of Israeli forces from occupied territories. This also led to the withdrawal from the region of the European powers and prompted Israel to exploit the American arena. This vital area was "exploited by Israel which started to present its case to the American public opinion from its own view and prevented us from achieving a durable and just peace after the 1967 war."

Mrs. Gandhi concludes week-long visit to Soviet Union India, Moscow to strengthen relations

MOSCOW (R) — India and the Soviet Union pledged Sunday to strengthen their already close relations and called for fresh efforts to defuse international tensions and strengthen détente. They issued a joint declaration at the end of a week-long visit to the Soviet Union by Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, who was paying her first call on Kremlin leaders since she resumed office in 1980. India and the Soviet Union "declare their resolve to continue to develop and strengthen their friendly relations... in the interests of the peoples of the two countries and the cause of international peace," the document said. It added that the two sides "expressed concern over the serious deterioration of the situation in the Middle East... and over continued hotbeds of tension in South West Asia."

The official Soviet media seldom refers directly to the armed conflict in Afghanistan, but "tension in south West Asia" is a phrase generally taken to refer to Afghanistan and the Gulf war between Iran and Iraq. S. West Asian problems The declaration, released by the official TASS news agency, said the problems of South West Asia demanded political solutions taking into account the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of the countries of the region. It called for an end to the war between Iran and Iraq and said both sides supported the efforts of the United Nations and of the Non-Aligned Movement towards this end. India is the next chairman of the 97-nation Non-Aligned Movement. The two sides also demanded "the immediate, unconditional withdrawal of Israeli forces from all occupied Arab territories and the satisfaction of the just demands of the Arab people of Palestine."

On other international topics, the declaration said the countries agreed on the need for establishing the Indian Ocean as a peace zone in which there would be no military bases. They also called for complete disarmament, a nuclear test ban and a freeze on the production and development of nuclear weapons. Bilateral ties The declaration, which was signed on Sept. 21, said they had agreed to examine possibilities for further economic cooperation and increased trade between the two countries. India already receives extensive military and economic aid from the Soviet Union and Moscow has effectively assumed much of the burden for India's development. "The Indian side appreciates the significant contribution made by the Soviet Union towards India's efforts to achieve self-reliance in various fields," the declaration said. Mr. Brezhnev and Soviet Prime Minister Nikolai Tikhonov accepted invitations to visit India. But no date was given. Mr. Brezhnev has already accepted several invitations this year to visit foreign states, but no date has so far been settled for any of them.

Israelis shift positions in Beirut; Italians land

BEIRUT (R) — A solution to a dispute over the presence of Israeli troops in west Beirut appeared to be moving closer Sunday as the Israelis pulled out of some of their remaining positions and said most of the rest of their men would leave on Tuesday. The refusal of the Israeli army to leave west Beirut, which it invaded 11 days ago, has delayed the deployment of a French-American-Italian force in the city to protect civilians following massacres in Palestinian refugee camps. By midday Sunday, Israeli tanks and armoured personnel carriers which had been stationed outside an office of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) in central Beirut had withdrawn and units of the Lebanese regular army were taking up position. The Israelis had also reduced the number of men and vehicles at Beirut's seaport. But at the airport on the southern edge of the city, they were still present in strength and a C-130 transport plane stood on the runway with its engines running. An Israeli military spokesman said Israeli forces would leave what he called the greater Beirut area, with the exception of the airport, on Tuesday. "It has been agreed in occupied Jerusalem," the spokesman said. "We will not move tomorrow because it is Yom Kippur (the Jewish day of atonement on which all traffic is prohibited). But we will pull back on Tuesday."

It was not immediately clear whether the new Israeli position would satisfy the Lebanese and U.S. governments, which diplomats say have been demanding a full Israeli withdrawal from the whole of Beirut. But enough progress appeared to have been made for Italy to agree to land a first contingent of soldiers in Beirut. A unit of 350 paratroops with machineguns, bazookas and jeeps came ashore at Beirut port from the frigate Persico and the chartered car ferry Cangara Bianco (White Kangaroo), watched by some of the Israelis still stationed in a damaged warehouse. Italian Ambassador Franco Lucio Ottieri, who Saturday said his country's contingent would not arrive until the Israelis quit the port, said Sunday: "There is no agreement on withdrawal but there are a few positive signs—the Israelis have partly left the port and we had some suggestions from the Lebanese government that we should come."

The spokesman said Mr. Habib will exchange views with King Hussein on a withdrawal of all foreign forces from Lebanon, but declined to give further details. The U.S. envoy is also scheduled to visit Damascus and Cairo. TEL AVIV (R) — Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin came under increasing pressure from within his cabinet Sunday to launch a full scale investigation into the Beirut massacre of Palestinian refugees. Several ministers were reported to have come out in favour of a statutory commission of inquiry with wide powers, a few hours after one of the biggest protest rallies in Israel's history called for Mr. Begin to appoint such a committee—and then resign. Sources close to the prime minister said he had not ruled out a major investigation along these lines and that it would be discussed at a cabinet meeting on Tuesday. Meanwhile, a military spokesman announced that Israeli forces would complete their withdrawal from west Beirut on Wednesday.

The increasingly bitter political controversy was complicated by a legal wrangle last week after the cabinet asked the president of Israel's supreme court to head an inquiry into the slaughter of children, women and men in refugee camps in Sabra and Shatila. This compromise proposal fell short of widespread demands for an investigation under the terms (Continued on page 3)

Begin under pressure to launch full-scale enquiry into massacre

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Shatila, Sabra struggle for normalcy

BEIRUT (R) — Eight days after the killing stopped in the Palestinian camps of Beirut an odour of rotting corpses still hung heavily Sunday over survivors huddled in their shanty homes. Medical teams sifting rubble for more bodies and television crews watching them work wore surgical masks to ward off the stench. Survivors tirelessly repeated the horror stories of the slaughter that followed the entry of right-wing Lebanese gunmen into Shatila and Sabra camps on Sept. 16. On the fringes of the camps life struggled back to a semblance of normal, with merchants opening up stalls to sell food and clothing. In other parts of west Beirut, once the stronghold of Palestinian and leftist forces, the Lebanese regular army visibly reasserted its role. Reorganised since the Lebanese civil war, the army had stood by passively in the fighting that followed the Israeli invasion of Lebanon last June.

Now with the Palestinian forces gone, the leftist militias overcame and the Israelis phasing themselves out of west Beirut the army is stepping in warily to fill the vacuum. Young soldiers in neatly pressed uniforms took up station at roadblocks which used to be manned by casually clad, gun-waving militias. Many of the soldiers seemed uncertain of their orders. They gave contradictory instructions to traffic and often directed cars into hopeless jams along impassable side streets. Security sources said the soldiers detained hundreds of suspects, mainly people carrying arms or with identity papers not in order. During the day convoys of regular army troops carriers rumbled noisily around the city with no obvious objective other than to proclaim the army's presence as an active force.

To stiffen the morale of these untried troops, units of the U.S.-French-Italian peace force were expected to take up duty alongside them this week. French and Italian units have already arrived by sea but have not taken up duty pending the Israeli's departure. They came ashore at the port of Beirut, which reopened only weeks ago after years of closure during which the docks were a deserted no-man's-land. Decaying warehouses and rusty cranes line the quayside. Improvised unloading gear is being brought up to handle the containers stuffed with supplies the city badly needs. Electricity and water services are almost back to normal. Telephones now work most of the time. Long-shuttered restaurants are opening up again with newly-printed menus and prices multiplied to keep pace with the times.

Honduran rebels arrive in Panama

PANAMA CITY (R) — Twelve leftist guerrillas, who held two Honduran cabinet ministers and scores of businessmen captive for eight days in northern Honduras, landed in Panama city Saturday night, a spokesman for Panama's national guard said. The guerrillas, who released the last of their hostages in the northern Honduran city of San Pedro Sula late Saturday, arrived on board a Panamanian air force plane and were taken into the custody of the national guard, the spokesman added. The Honduran authorities said earlier Saturday that the guerrillas would travel to Cuba via Panama City. The national guard spokesman said the Panamanian government was awaiting official word from Cuba that it would send a plane to take the guerrillas to Havana. The guerrillas stormed San Pedro Sula's Chamber of Commerce building on Sept. 17 and seized more than 100 business and government leaders that were discussing ways to solve Honduras' economic problems.

FDP heads for defeat

FRANKFURT. West Germany (R) — West Germany's Free Democratic Party (FDP), which quit Chancellor Helmut Schmidt's Bonn government nine days ago, was heading for the worst electoral defeat in its history in the state of Hesse Sunday, according to first computer projections. The small Liberal Party, led by former Foreign Minister Hans Dietrich Genscher, was winning only 3.1 per cent of the vote half an hour after the polls closed, not enough to keep seats in the state assembly in Wiesbaden. The conservative Christian Democratic Union (CDU) appeared to be heading the poll with 45 per cent, closely tailed by Mr. Schmidt's Social Democrats (SPD)—who have ruled Hesse for the last 36 years—on 44.6 per cent. The radical ecologist Greens Party, polling 6.8 per cent, seemed certain to enter the 110-seat state assembly for the first time. The projected result was a drastic blow for the FDP, deeply split over Mr. Genscher's decision to abandon Mr. Schmidt and seek a coalition with the conservatives.

Foot bags union support for purge of left-wingers

BLACKPOOL. England (R) — Britain's Labour opposition leader Michael Foot won a key trade union's support Sunday for his proposal to purge the party of extreme left-wingers. On the eve of the Labour Party's annual conference here, the country's biggest trade union, the 1.25 million-strong Transport and General Workers' Union (TGWU), voted to back Mr. Foot's call for the expulsion of militant Trotskyists and others he says are undermining Labour's democratic machinery. At 69, Mr. Foot has staked his future on support for a purge, which he hopes would end years of bitter feuding between the party's radical left wing and its centre-left leadership. The vote by a majority of TGWU delegates to ignore their executive's advice and support Mr. Foot's plan for a register of approved organisations in the party was a big boost for the Labour leader. Britain's trade unions fund the Labour Party and control big

blocks of votes at the conference. Himself a fiery champion of the left, Mr. Foot is struggling to maintain his credibility against challenges from even more radical sections of the party, especially the main target of his proposed purge, the militant tendency. He wants this Trotskyist group excluded from the planned register. Labour's internal strife is seen as one of the main reasons it lags behind the ruling Conservatives in the opinion polls. The conference could be the party's last chance to put its house in order before the next election, widely expected in October next year. The party could also lose votes to the new alliance of Liberals and Social Democrats, the latter set up as a party by disillusioned Labour Party figures a year ago. Lined up against Mr. Foot, who took over the leadership two years ago, are an array of prominent left-wingers led by the radical former Minister Tony Benn. Earlier story on page 8

FEATURES

Islam flourishes in China

By Geoffrey Newman

"Allah... Akbar! God is great!" chants the caller in Arabic. His voice resonates throughout the domed mosque as the congregation listens attentively. It's Ramadan, the ninth month of the Muslim lunar year—the month commemorating Mohammed's receipt of the first Koranic revelations, and the time of fasting, during which the faithful are not allowed to eat or drink during the day.

The Grand Mosque of Taipei has services every Friday, but this Friday it is especially crowded because it is Ramadan. Muslims who might not normally come to services on an ordinary Friday will excuse themselves from their jobs and their daily tasks in order to come to the mosque and pray during the holy month.

The Grand Mosque of Taipei looks like a traditional mosque should. It has a large dome in the centre, two small domes on each side, and two minarets. The front of the mosque is made up of a series of Moorish arches. This mosque, done in the traditional style of Islamic architecture, is testimony to the freedom of religion and religious expression in the Republic of China today. In the old days in China before 1912, foreign religions were officially disliked and disapproved of by the government. The freedom of Islam to express itself was restrained. Mosques had to conform to the pattern, form, and architectural style of the officially approved Confucian temples and were built in a rectangular form with a series of inner courts.

The Taipei Grand Mosque was built in 1960 with funds donated by the congregation and with the help of a loan from the Bank of Taiwan. The congregation had already repaid half of the loan when the government decided to exempt them from having to repay

the rest. Today the mosque serves the local Chinese Muslim congregation and, also, Muslim members of the international community living in Taiwan.

In Islam, the sexes are segregated during prayer. The women sit upstairs in a separate balcony and cover themselves in long flowing shawls while they pray. The men gather in the prayer hall downstairs, remove their shoes before entering, and put on a knitted white prayer cap. There are no pictures, statues, or icons—which are strictly forbidden by Islam—adorning the mosque. The prayer hall is very simple. There is only a large chandelier hanging from the ceiling, a thick Oriental carpet on the floor, and the name of Allah written in gold for all to see.

The service has two parts. The first is a sermon by the Imam of the Taipei Grand Mosque, Hadj Dawood Chung Ming Ting. In his sermon he explains the meaning and significance of Ramadan. He quotes the Koran in Arabic and explains it in Chinese. During this part of the service there is a free and relaxed atmosphere. The men sit scattered about on the floor of the mosque in groups, chatting with old friends whom they may not have seen in some time. However, as soon as the sermon ends, the conversations stop, and everyone rushes forward to form very neat and straight lines starting from the front of the mosque and stretching to the back. The congregation is now ready to pray. There is no sound except for the voice of the caller leading them in prayer and the rustle of clothing as the faithful in unison, kneel, hold their hands out, press their head to the floor in prayer, and then rise up to a standing position.

Origin of Islam in China

Islam came to China in the Seventh Century, brought by Persians and Arabs from the Middle

East. Islam was brought to Taiwan by Cheng Cheng-kung (Koxinga) after the fall of the Ming Dynasty. According to Imam Ting, 20,000 Muslims came to Taiwan in 1649 with the military, when the government moved to Taiwan. The number of Muslims has increased naturally and through conversions to Islam so that today, Imam Ting says, a very conservative estimate of the Chinese Muslim population in Taiwan is 50,000.

In addition, there are both Chinese and non-Chinese Muslims from many different Middle Eastern and Asian countries who live and work in Taiwan, either temporarily or permanently.

Islam in Taiwan is in a healthy condition. "No one leaves the faith," the Imam asserted. Often, people who have not come to mosque for years will one day, when taken ill or when suffering the blights of old age, suddenly return to the mosque seeking solace and comfort.

Talking with members of the congregation, I found that most were active Muslims who frequently attended services. Quite a few were either brushing up on their Arabic or studying the language in their spare time. They felt that their numbers were increasing because the mosque was getting more and more crowded each year.

One of the reasons for the increase could be inter-marriage. If a non-Muslim marries a Muslim, more often than not, the non-Muslim will convert to Islam. However, one member of the congregation was quick to add that the increase was solely by peaceful, natural means, and that the old stereotype of non-Muslims being converted by the sword has no place in the modern world.

They told me of some of the problems that non-Muslim Chinese have in converting to Islam. It is very difficult for them to adjust to the rigours of Muslim life and to give up eating pork, which is an

essential ingredient in Chinese cuisine but is forbidden to Muslims. Most Chinese believe in the Confucian tradition of ancestor worship and display ancestral tablets on an altar in their homes. Muslims, however, are not allowed to follow this practice, and this is often the most difficult prohibition for the newly converted Chinese and his or her family to accept.

Most of the people I spoke with said that they intended to bring their children up as Muslims. There were quite a number of children wearing white caps and praying alongside their fathers. Many of these children were attending the mosque's summer Arabic school, learning Arabic and about the Koran and Islam.

One man said that he was the only Muslim in his native village. He was a Taiwanese who had converted on his own. He first came in contact with Islam because of a Muslim high school teacher. The teacher encouraged him to read about Islam, and today he is a devout Muslim. He convinced his wife to convert when she married him; his children are studying Arabic.

Imam Ting is a very energetic and forceful man who does not look his 69 years. He attributes his good health and vigour to leading a clean and pure life according to the Koran. He does not drink, smoke, or gamble. Imam Ting was born in 1913 in Hunan Province. In 1933 he left China to go abroad on a Chinese Muslim scholarship, awarded to outstanding graduates of the three Muslim high schools in China at that time.

He went to Cairo, Egypt where he attended Azhar University, the most prestigious Islamic university. He returned to China after graduation seven years later. In 1943 he went abroad again, this time in government service. He has served for more than twenty years as a government official, and as an ambassador.

He speaks Arabic and Persian fluently and has spent many years in Iran, Lebanon, Libya and also Mauritania.

Returning to Taiwan in 1966, he took up the position of Imam at the Taipei Grand Mosque; he has also become the director of the Arabic language department at the National Chengchi University. At the same time, he still holds a position in the government with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and is a member of the World Muslim League.

Discipline in Islam

Talking about the holy month of Ramadan and about Islam, he said: "The most important thing about Islam is discipline, a type of military discipline. I really came to understand the spirit of Ramadan when I was with the Nationalist troops besieged in Chungking. We were in the caves beneath the city, trapped during the day by Japanese bombing raids. The only time we could go out to get something to eat was at night. For the Muslim soldiers this was no hardship,



Children accompany their parents for prayer



The Taipei Grand Mosque — Graceful minarets against the sky

because they had experienced this kind of discipline and training through Islam, but the non-Muslim troops found this very difficult to endure.

"The significance of fasting during Ramadan is to experience and to understand hunger," he said. "Muslims must do everything they can to alleviate hunger and suffering by contributing to charity." The Imam emphasised that during Ramadan, one must not take any nourishment during the day, and he explained that because the rule specified

nourishment, drinking was forbidden too. "If drinking was permitted then one could drink milk, which provides nourishment, and this would defeat the purpose."

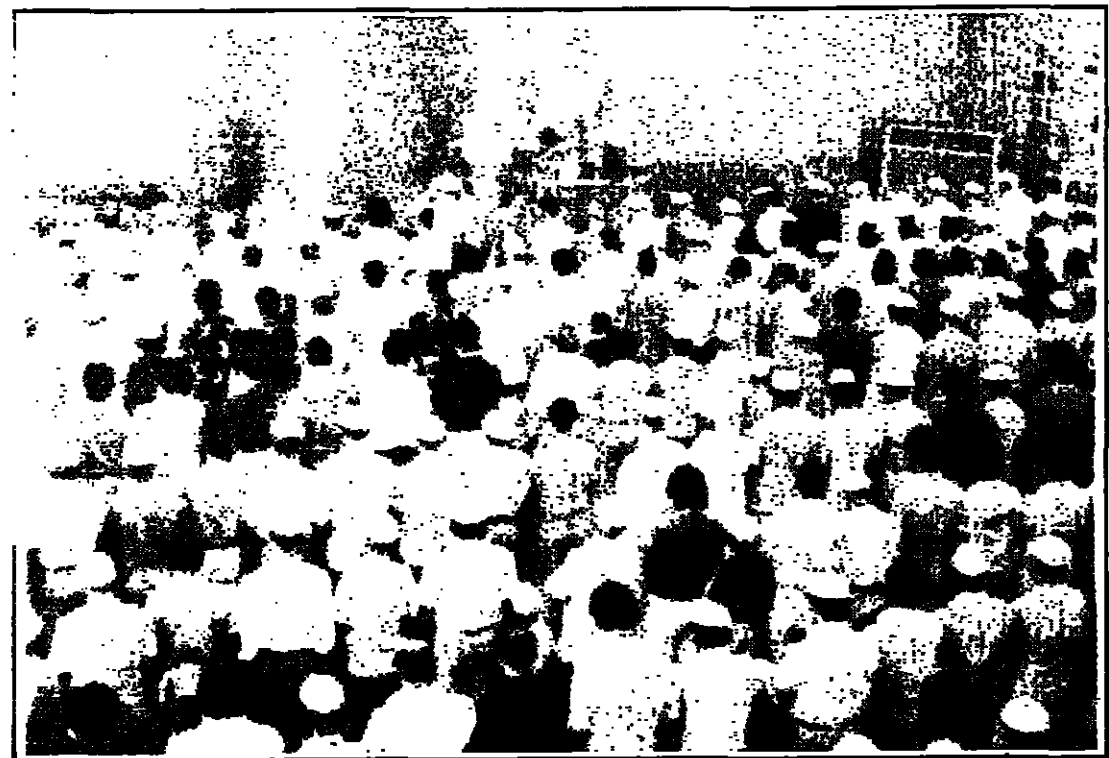
Then, right in his office, the Imam performed a conversion and marriage ceremony. A middle-aged Saudi Arabian doctor wanted to marry his Chinese nurse. They met when the nurse was working at a hospital in Saudi Arabia. The Imam first performed the conversion ceremony. The bride already knew some Arabic and was able to repeat the neces-

sary phrases after the Imam. The bride and her mother, who also participated in the ceremony, both wore shawls and long dresses. The mother repeated the words after the Imam too, and closed her eyes in prayer. The bride then put one hand on the Koran, raised the other, and swore the oath in both Arabic and Chinese. "There is but one God, Allah, and Mohammed is his prophet." Then, as a newly converted Muslim, she and her husband were married.

Several young people came into the office and enthusiastically

asked the Imam if he would be willing to participate in an activity they were planning for the mosque's young people. The Imam readily agreed, but as a firm believer in Muslim discipline and purity, he told them to make sure to wear modest clothing—long sleeves and long pants or skirts—and he said: "Some people may think it is square, but dressing conservatively and modestly makes one more beautiful."

— Free China Review



The congregation — Heads covered in honour of God

TV & RADIO

JORDAN TELEVISION

MAIN CHANNEL

17:30 Koran
17:50 Cartoons
18:10 Children's Programme
18:30 News Summary
19:15 Local Programme
19:25 Local Programme on Health
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 Arabic Series
21:00 Arabic Feature Film
22:10 Arabic Play
23:00 News in Arabic

FOREIGN CHANNEL

18:00 French Programme
19:00 News in French
19:30 News in Hebrew
20:30 Comedy: George & Mildred
21:00 (100) Great Performances
22:10 Play of the Week
23:00 News in English
23:15 "The Car"

RADIO JORDAN

855 KHz AM & 99 MHz FM
& partly on 95.0 KHz SW

07:10 Morning Show
10:00 Morning Show
12:00 News Summary
12:05 Pop Session
13:00 News Summary
13:05 Pop Session
14:00 News Bulletin
14:10 Instrumental
14:30 Picnic Time
15:00 Concert Hour
16:00 News Summary
16:05 Instrumental, Old Favourites
17:00 25 Years of Rock
18:00 Sports Round-up, In Concert
19:00 Newsdesk
19:30 Date with a Star
20:00 Evening Show
21:00 News Summary
21:05 News Headlines
21:50 Sign Off

BBC WORLD SERVICE

639, 720, 1413 KHz

06:00 Newsdesk 06:30 To Build a Fire
06:15 Words 06:50 Paperback Choice
06:55 Reflections 07:00 World News

07:00 24 Hours, News Summary 07:30 Classical Pop 07:45 The Poet Isel
08:00 Newsdesk 08:30 Off the Record
09:00 World News 09:05 24 Hours
News Summary 09:30 Command Performance 10:15 Peebles' Choice 10:30 Anything Goes 11:00 World News 11:05 British Press Review 11:15 Words 11:20 Goods Books 11:35 Interlude 11:40 Look Ahead 11:45 Music Now 12:15 The Brazilian Cat 12:30 What Hope of Heaven? 13:00 World News 13:05 News About Britain 13:15 Eynote 13:30 Diversions 14:00 Radio Newsworld 14:15 Brain of Britain 14:45 Sports Round-up 15:00 World News 15:05 24 Hours News Summary 15:50 Cricket 15:55 What Makes a Country Rich 16:15 The Plain Man's Guide to International Organisation 16:30 John Peel 16:45 Country Style 17:00 Radio Newsworld 17:15 Outlook 18:00 World News 18:05 Commentary 18:15 My Music 18:45 The World Today 19:00 World News 19:05 Paperback Choice 19:15 Uncle Silas 19:45 Sports Round-up 20:00 World News 20:05 News about Britain 20:15 Radio Newsworld 20:30 Off the Record 21:00 Outlook 21:30 Stock Market Report 21:45 Look Ahead 21:45 Peaches' Choice 22:00 World News 22:05 24 Hours News Summary 22:30 Sports International 23:00 Network U.K. 23:15 World Service Short Story 23:30 Grainger in the Strand 24:00 World News 00:05 The World Today 00:25 Book Choice 00:30 Financial News 00:40 Reflections 00:45 Sports roundup 01:00 World News 01:05 Commentary 01:15 Classical Record Review 01:30 Brain of Britain 1982

VOICE OF AMERICA

05:00 Daybreak 06:00 The Breakfast Show 17:00 News Roundup: Reports, Actualities, News Summary 17:30 VOA Magazine Show: Americana, Science, Listeners' letters 18:00 Special English News 18:10 Special English Science and Technology Report 18:15 Feature: This is America 18:30 Music USA: Standards 19:00 News Roundup 19:30 Dateline 20:00 Special English News 20:10 Science and Technology 20:15 This is America 20:30 Music USA: Standards 21:00 News Roundup 21:30 VOA Magazine Show 22:00 Special English News 22:10 Science and Technology 22:15 Music USA: Jazz 22:30 VOA World Report: News Newsmakers' Voices, Correspondents' Reports, Analyses

WHAT'S GOING ON

EXHIBITIONS

* History of French Cinema, photographs, at the French Cultural Centre.

VIDEO

* Le palais du fond des mers (5:00 p.m.) and Jean Vigo (6:00 p.m.) at the French Cultural Centre.

CULTURAL CENTRES

American Centre tel. 41520
British Council 36147-8
French Cultural Centre 37009
Goethe Institute 41493
Soviet Cultural Centre 44203
Spanish Cultural Centre 34040
Turkish Cultural Centre 39777
Haya Arts Centre 665195
Husseini Youth City 667181
Y.W.C.A. 41793
Y.W.M.C.A. 664251
Amman Municipal Library 36111
University of Jordan Library 84355

MUSEUMS

Folklore Museum: Jewelry and costumes over 100 years old. Also mosaics from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 51760.

Jordan National Gallery: Has an excellent collection of the antiquities of Jordan. Jabal Al Qaf'a (Crater Hill). Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. (Fridays and official holidays 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.). Closed Tuesdays.

Jordan National Gallery: Contains a collection of paintings, ceramics, and sculpture by contemporary Islamic artists from most of the Muslim countries dating from the 10th to 19th century. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 30128.
Military Museum: Collection of military memorabilia dating from the Arab

Revolt of 1916. Sports City, Amman. Opening hours 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Closed Saturdays. Tel. 664240.
Popular Life of Jordan Museum: 100 to 150 year old items such as costumes, weapons, musical instruments, etc. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 37169.

SERVICE CLUBS

Lions Amman Club: Meetings every first and third Wednesday at the International Hotel, 1:30 p.m.
Lions Philadelphia Club: Meetings every second and fourth Wednesday at the Grand Palace Hotel, 1:30 p.m.
Philadelphian Rotary Club: Meetings every Wednesday at the Holiday Inn, 1:30 p.m.
Rotary Club: Meetings every Tuesday at the International Hotel, 2:00 p.m.
Royal Automobile Club: Jabal Amman. Eighth Circle. Tel. 815261.

CHURCHES

St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic) Jabal Amman, tel. 24590.
Church of the Annunciation (Roman Catholic) Jabal Luweidh, 37440.
De la Salle Church (Roman Catholic) Jabal Hussein, 661751.
Church of the Annunciation (Greek Orthodox) Abdali, 23541.
Anglican Church (Church of the Redeemer) Jabal Amman, 43453.
Armenian Catholic Church Ashrafieh, 71331.
Armenian Orthodox Church Ashrafieh, 75261.
St. Ephraim Church (Syrian Orthodox) Ashrafieh, 71751.
Armenian International Church (Inter-denominational), meets at Southern Baptist School in Shmeisani, 663249.

PRAYER TIMES

04:05 Fajr
05:25 (Sunrise) Shuruq
11:28 Dhuhr
14:53 'Asr
17:25 Maghreb
18:48 'Isha

FOR THE TRAVELLER

AMMAN AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Alia information department at Amman Airport tel. 92263-6, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS

07:15 Cairo (EA)
08:55 Agaba (RJ)
09:00 Cairo (RJ)
09:00 Larnaca (RJ)
09:05 Damascus (RJ)
09:15 Abu Dhabi (RJ)
09:30 Jeddah (RJ)
09:45 Kuwait (RJ)
09:50 Muscat, Dubai (RJ)
10:00 Doha, Bahrain (RJ)
10:40 Kuwait (SR)
11:10 Cairo (EA)
14:00 Tripoli (LA)
15:30 Kuwait (KAC)
15:30 Cairo (RJ)
15:30 Jeddah, Medina (Saudi)
16:30 Bangkok (RJ)
17:10 Cairo (EA)
17:30 New York, Vienna (RJ)
17:45 Bucharest (RJ)
18:00 Cairo (RJ)
18:45 Belgrade (RJ)
18:50 London (BA)
19:50 Frankfurt (LH)
20:10 Amsterdam (KLM)
21:00 Moscow (SU)
22:30 Baghdad (RJ)
24:00 Cairo (RJ)
00:30 Baghdad (RJ)
01:10 Cairo (EA)

MONEY EXCHANGE

Local sell-buy rates in fils
Belgian franc 74.1/ 74.5
Dutch guilder 130.6/ 131.4
Egyptian pound 36.5/ 36.5
French franc 50.7/ 51
Iraqi dinar 650/ 660
Italian lire (for 100) 25.4/ 25.6
Japanese yen (for 100) 134.9/ 135.7
Kuwaiti dinar 122.9/ 123.1
Lebanese lira 76.7/ 78.5
Omani rial 1033.3/ 1037.0
Qatari riyal 98.2/ 98.8
Saudi riyal 103.6/ 104
Swedish crown 57.4/ 57.7
Swiss franc 166.4/ 167.4
Syrian lira 62.5/ 63
UAE dirham 97.4/ 97.6
U.S. sterling pound 613.9/ 617.6
U.S. dollar 350/ 361
W. German mark 143/ 143.9

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

Fair weather with the appearance of low clouds and northwesterly moderate wind. In Agaba, northerly moderate wind and calm seas.

Low/high temperature in deg. C.
Amman 17/26
Agaba 21/33
Deserts 17/32
Jordan Valley 21/34

Yesterday's high temperature readings:
Amman 27, Agaba 33. Humidity readings: Amman 28 per cent, Agaba 32 per cent.

USEFUL TELEPHONE NOS.

EMERGENCIES

Ambulance 193, 75111
First aid, fire, police 199
Blood bank 75121
Civil Defence rescue 66111
Fire headquarters 32000-3
Police rescue 192, 21111, 37777
Police headquarters 30141
Traffic police 56300-1
Electric Power Co. 36381-2
Municipal water service 71125-8

HOSPITALS

Hussein Medical Centre 813813-32
Khaldi Maternity, J. Amman 44281-4
Akleh Maternity, J. Amman 42441
Jabal Amman Maternity 42362
Malina, J. Amman 36140
Palestine, Shmeisani 664171-4
Shmeisani Hospital 669131-5
University Hospital 445845
Dar Al-Shifa, J. Hussein 667158
Al-Mushter, J. Hussein 667127-9
The Istailic, Abdali 665792
Al-Ahli, Abdali 664164
Italian, Al-Mohajreen 77101-3
Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafieh 75111
Army, Marka 91611

NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN
Dr. Anwar Aqrabi 42696

GENERAL

Dr. Munir Wardah (Ashrafieh)
Neirukh pharmacy 23672
Al Safa Pharmacy 74054
Hussein pharmacy 669295
Al Rawabdeh pharmacy 666033
Taxi taxi 44600
Jerusalem taxi 39655
Khaled taxi 23715
Kurd taxi 841309
IBRID
Dr. Ali Omari 72032
Khazir pharmacy (—)
ZARQA
Dr. Azzam Al Madani 85338
Uns pharmacy (—)
Jordan Television 73111
Radio Jordan 73111
Ministry of Tourism 42311
Hotel complaints 666412
Onion (dry) 80/ 80
Telephone:
Information 12
Jordan and Middle East calls 10
Overseas calls 17
Cable or telegram 18
Repair service 11

MARKET PRICES

Upper/lower price in fils per kg.
Apple (African) 240/ 200
Apple (American) 240/ 200
Apple (Double Red) 240/ 180
Apple (Golden) 260/ 200
Apple (Japanese) 250/ 200
Apple (Local) 250/ 200
Apple (Starken) 260/ 200
Banana (Mukammur) 360/ 200
Beans 330/ 300
Beans (string) 320/ 280
Cabbage 150/ 120
Carrot 220/ 180
Cauliflower (white) 200/ 160
Cherries 420/ 380
Cucumber (large) 135/ 150
Cucumber (small) 260/ 200
Dates 200/ 160
Eggplant (small) 180/ 140
Figs 150/ 120
Figs 240/ 200
Garlic 500/ 400
Grapes 200/ 200
Grapes (black) 240/ 200
Guava 280/ 200
Hot Green Pepper 280/ 250
Lemon (imported) 240/ 220
Lemon (local) 160/ 120
Mellow 70/ 50
Marrow (large) 160/ 140
Marrow (small) 250/ 180
Melon 220/ 160
Onion (dry) 80/ 60
Parsley 100/ 100
Peas 450/ 400
Pears (Lebanese) 450/ 400
Plums 270/ 200
Potato (imported) 140/ 100
Radish 150/ 100
Red Cherrries 500/ 450
Sage 450/ 380
Spinach 180/ 140
Sweet Pepper 200/ 160
Tomato 80/ 60
Water Melon 130/ 100
Water Melon (stuffed) 100/ 70

Handwritten signature or stamp in Arabic script.

Banda Habib's CORNER

A feast of horror

My five-year-old son after breaking his piggy-bank and gathering the coins, looked at me with his big eyes and said "I want you to give them to the children of Beirut, the ones you were talking about the other day."

He must have heard us talking again and again about the horror of the massacres in the refugee camps in Beirut. "It is for the feast," he added, "I want them to buy toys". The feast... we had forgotten all about it. How could any one think of a feast when obsessed by the images of those mutilated bodies, and blood?

As I was still not answering him, my son told me: "I know that children were also killed but I don't know why". I hugged him and had to face the most difficult moment of my life as a mother. How can I tell him that nations are sometimes guided by hatred? How can I tell him about the passion for death that fills men? How can I reveal to him that innocent and frightened children of his age were cold bloodedly murdered? How can I admit to him that the world can sometimes be so ugly?

I would have liked to talk to him only about flowers and colourful butterflies, about Peter Pan and lovely fairy tales. But my son had heard. He has seen photos of this nightmare, of heaped corpses being hauled away by bulldozers. He wants to know why.

I understood then that our children, who live surrounded by horror, cannot be lured away any longer. They have become acquainted with death.

Minister, mayor inspect Amman's neglected areas

AMMAN (J.T.) — Interior Minister Ahmad 'Ubeidat and Amman Mayor Isam Ajlouni Saturday made an inspection tour of areas in central Amman where old and dilapidated buildings stand as well as plots of unused land which constitute a fifth ground considered dangerous to public health and safety.

Also going on the three-hour tour which started from Amman Municipality building at 10 in the evening were Amman Governor 'Ayya Al Mousili and directors of several government departments in Amman.

The group inspected 15 different places which included old warrens considered dangerous and threatening neighbouring streets with landslides especially in

the coming winter season.

Following the tour, an enlarged meeting to discuss the situation was held at the municipality. Several proposals for solving pressing problems were put forth at the meeting and Mr. 'Ubeidat emphasized the need for settling outstanding issues, and the urgency for holding personal contacts with the owners of the abandoned lands and unused buildings to deal with the problem.

Mr. Ajlouni said that the municipality will soon embark on a serious attempt to solve these outstanding problems and will resort to appropriate legal measures in this respect. These, he said include the appointment of a special judge to handle municipality-related affairs.

Arab Union's scientific research meeting ends

AMMAN (Petra) — A committee formed by the Baghdad-based Arab Union of Scientific Research Councils (AUSRC), to tackle economic and social research projects ended a two-day meeting at the Royal Scientific Society (RSS) in Amman Sunday.

Among a number of recommendations adopted was a call on Arab states to endorse scientific projects proposed by the AUSRC for the years 1981-83.

These affect a number of social and economic sectors such as regional planning to develop urban and rural areas, the distribution of wealth in Arab countries and a

project for manpower development in Arab government departments.

The committee also recommended that AUSRC coordinate its projects with specialized regional and international organizations, particularly in the movement of labour force, enacting laws for encouraging investment, and developing health services throughout the Arab World.

The committee meeting was in implementation of a resolution by the AUSRC at its meeting held in Tangiers in October 1981.

Crown Prince meets British delegation

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan Sunday briefed a delegation from the British Royal College of Defence Studies, on Jordan's economic development and achievements of the past five-year development plan in the economic and social fields.

At the meeting held at the royal court, Prince Hassan also spoke about the current situation in the occupied Arab territories and the deteriorating conditions of Arab inhabitants as well as Israel's inhuman and immoral practices, referring to Israel's massacres of Palestinian refugees in Beirut.

Later Prince Hassan met with visiting Japanese parliament member Mrs. U. Otaku with whom he discussed the condition of Arab people under Israeli rule and Israel's settlement policies.



Crown Prince Hassan meets with the delegation from the British Royal College of Defence Studies Sunday

UNRWA says reducing rations was step taken before invasion of Lebanon

By Dina Matar
Reuters

AMMAN — A decision by a United Nations agency to stop almost all food aid to Palestinian refugees in Jordan has made it the target of bitter words here.

Representatives of the 700,000 registered refugees in Jordan condemned the decision by the U.N. Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) and accused it of backing down on its responsibilities.

Some even accused the agency of being part of what they called plots against the Palestinian people and their cause.

The decision, taken late last month, appeared at first to have been prompted by the urgent need for food supplies in Lebanon following the Israeli invasion in June, which reduced to rubble large parts of several refugee camps in the south of the country and Beirut.

But UNRWA officials said that the agency had decided to cut down food aid in Jordan before the Lebanese invasion because of a chronic shortage of money.

The refugees' anger erupted at a rally held recently at Baqa, the most heavily populated refugee camp in Jordan. Representatives demanded the removal of UNRWA administrators in Jordan, branding them conspirators in the "the plot against the Palestinian people."

The representatives sent a series of letters to Arab leaders and the United Nations complaining about UNRWA's decision.

In what has been in political circles here as a move to appease the restive Palestinians, the Jordanian government issued a formal condemnation of the UNRWA move. But it took no practical steps against the agency.

UNRWA said the accusations were unjustified. It defended its move as being in line with its policy of phasing out food aid programmes not only in Jordan but in Syria and the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip as well.

"In fact, scaling down on food rations was a step taken before the Israeli invasion of Lebanon and has nothing to do with it," one UNRWA source said. He said the decision was due to lack of money and a shortage of donations of food.

UNRWA has no regular source of income and suffers from constant financial problems. It depends on voluntary contributions each year from members of the United Nations.

Last month the advisory committee of the agency said in a despatch from its headquarters in Vienna that its estimated budget deficit for the next fiscal year would total \$64 million.

The despatch said that income was expected to fall short of the amount UNRWA needs to maintain its normal level of work.

UNRWA sources said the agency's budgeted expenditure for 1983 was \$250 million but contributions were expected to bring in no more than \$186 million.

They said UNRWA's task was to provide education, health and relief services to registered refugees in Jordan, Lebanon, Syria and the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

But several years ago, the agency decided to place education at the top of its list. It stopped purchasing food and depended on contributions of foodstuffs, notably from the European community.

This meant the agency had to reduce the basic ration it gave refugees from 1,500 calories a day to less than 1,000.

But now UNRWA has had to stop food rations completely to all refugees except 12,000 special hardship cases.

UNRWA's reasoning appears to have failed to appease the Palestinian refugees in Jordan, who want it to continue its overall aid programmes. They fear reductions in other services will follow.

The agency came near to closing its schools in the past because of lack of money and only last-minute contributions by governments saved them.

Palestinian refugees first came to Jordan in the wake of the 1948

Arab-Israeli War. When Israel was created and hundreds of thousands of Palestinians made homeless.

After 1948 some 400,000 Palestinian refugees made Jordan their home, if only temporarily, and after the 1967 Mideast War some 300,000 refugees flocked in and settled in what Jordanian officials term emergency camps.

UNRWA earlier this year called on governments and inter-

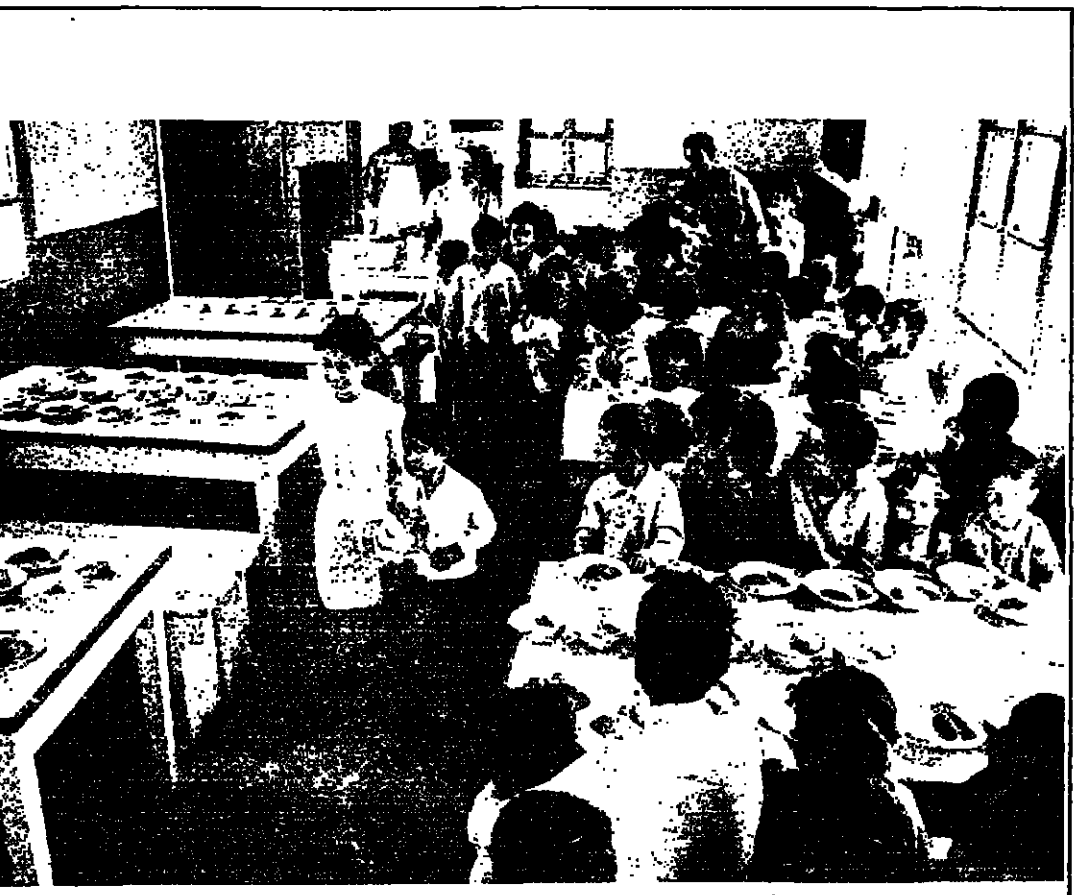
national organisations to make donations in cash instead of food or to allow it to sell their food contributions for cash.

Major donor governments include the United States, Canada, Japan, the European community, and Arab countries.

Japan said it would increase its aid by \$1 million while Saudi Arabia has made a special contribution of \$5 million and Kuwait \$1.5 million.



UNRWA rations being distributed to Palestinian refugees in Jordan (UNRWA photo)



Meals offered to Palestinian children at UNRWA schools. (UNRWA photo)



The King decorates Prince Abdullah with the paratroops badge Sunday

Hussein attends army's special force exercise

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein Sunday watched a military exercise performed by the army's special forces.

At the end of the exercise which included parachute jumping, King Hussein decorated his son Prince Abdullah with the badge of paratroopers after he has successfully

completed a training course in the field along with trainees of the Royal Military College.

Attending the ceremony and the exercises with the King were the armed forces commander-in-chief Lt. Gen. Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker and a number of senior army officers.

King receives cables of good wishes

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein has received cables of good wishes on the Al Adha feast from senior government officials.

Cables came from the prime minister, speaker of the upper house of parliament, president of the National Consultative Council, the armed forces commander in chief, Amman mayor, directors of public security, civil defence and general intelligence as well as other senior officials and high

ranking army officers.

The Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs has announced that prayers on Al Adha feast will be held at 5:38 a.m. Monday, Sept. 27. Also religious ceremonies on the occasion will be held in various mosques around the country.

On the occasion, all government departments and public institutions will remain closed until the end of Friday, Oct. 1, 1982.

Jews in Brief

Irbid gets 20 dunum land

IRBID (Petra) — A 20 dunum tract of land has been purchased in the northern district of Irbid for the establishment of an integrated health centre, according to an announcement by the health department here. It said that technical plans have been drawn up for establishing the centre which will be provided by doctors and nurses to offer services to some 50,000 inhabitants in villages north of Irbid.

Ramtha sets up industrial zone

RAMTHA (Petra) — Ramtha Municipality has allocated JD 175,000 for establishing an industrial zone in Ramtha and 1,600 dunums have been purchased for the project which will be established in the coming two months. Ramtha mayor Mohammad Al Bushabshe said that plans have been drawn up for the project whose first stage entails the construction of 80 hangars.

Wadi Mousa to hold cultural event

AMMAN (Petra) — The Department of Libraries, Documentation and National Archives will organise a cultural event at the village of Wadi Mousa, in southern Jordan by the end of October. The event to be held in cooperation with Wadi Mousa Municipality entails setting up a reading camp.

Village gets JD 150,000 loan

IRBID (Petra) — The Cities and Villages Development Bank has granted Khirbet Al Wahadneh village in Irbid Governorate a JD 150,000 loan. The loan will be used for the construction of roads, a preparatory school and will partly finance the replacement of a drinking water pipe network.

New cooperative society formed

IRBID (Petra) — A new cooperative society has been formed in Irbid Governorate to offer interest-free loans to its members. A spokesman for the society said that Yarmouk University employees will benefit from these loans which would be used in development schemes.

Ramtha completes water-pipe extension

RAMTHA (Petra) — Ramtha Municipality has completed the extension of water-pipe networks in Ramtha, and the replacement of old water pump engines with modern electric ones. These, he said are being used for pumping water to various districts. According to a municipality spokesman, a water tower has been constructed in the north eastern district of Ramtha to help distribute water to outlying areas.

Jerash completes sewerage project

JERASH (Petra) — Jerash Municipality Sunday announced the completion of a sewerage project for the city at the cost of JD 750,000. A spokesman for the municipality said that work is now underway for linking various sections of the city with the main sewers which will benefit at least 80 per cent of the population. Also the city's waste water treatment plant will be operational soon, he said.

Continued from page 1

Israel has no right to bargain

For this reason, King Hussein said, "I consider President Reagan's initiative a brave and very realistic one, and therefore I hope an American position will be developed in a manner serving as basis for our joint endeavours for peace."

"The strong relations between Jordanian and Palestinian people will continue for ever because the two peoples are in reality one family and from a historical point of view, relations between Jordan and Palestine had existed long before their unification in 1951, and continued till 1967 and until now."

The issue of Jordan and Palestine is mainly the concern of the Jordanian and Palestinian peoples and this requires a dialogue between the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and Jordan arrive at a formula that will satisfy the two people's needs in the future, King Hussein pointed out. "What we can do, the King said, "to lay down the basis for the

form of relationship between Jordan and Palestine within the framework of a confederation."

"We also ought to present this formula to the people in a referendum and offer the Palestinians and Jordanians the right to accept it or reject it, he said.

But, he added, there must be two states within this confederation and each state shoulder its responsibilities and carry its own identity. Such a confederation, he said, can serve as an excellent example for the other Arab countries.

Following Israel's invasion of Lebanon, the King said, the PLO has been transformed into a basic factor in the region... "at a time when the whole world has witnessed the downfall of Israel's reputation."

Israel, the King said, wants to distract the world's attention from its practices in the region and its occupation of Arab territory by trying to create new realities and by creating new difficulties and problems.

Begin under pressure

a 1968 law giving commissions a power to subpoena witnesses, order them to testify under oath and demand prosecution of those who refuse to comply.

In any event, Chief Justice Yitzhak Kahan said he could not consider the request because two petitions for a state inquiry were already before his court and the matter was therefore subjudice.

In the light of this decision, a growing number of ministers were reported ready to approve a full

statutory investigation under the 1968 legislation.

Israel's state radio quoted Justice Minister Moshe Nissim as saying it now seemed the only alternative and said at least four other ministers agreed with him.

An authoritative source in Mr. Begin's office said the prime minister had agreed from the beginning on the need for an inquiry into the mass murder of Palestinian civilians by Israeli-backed Lebanese militia earlier this month.

Marijuana crop helps bolster Garberville's depressed economy

By Peter Szekely
Reuter

Garberville, California — An area around this small town developed an underground marijuana-based economy so ancient that it has produced its version of a commodity market.

It is nearly harvest time and waders say buyers and croppers will soon flock to the area where the illegal multi-million dollar marijuana crop has bolstered Garberville's otherwise depressed local economy. There's a whole different economy here, says one pot grower, and it's based on marijuana. The marijuana is no ordinary

variety. It is *sinsemilla*, a high-priced, specially cultivated strain of which only the super-potent, unfertilized buds of the female plant are sold.

Sinsemilla's commercial development was pioneered during the 1970s in the rugged, undeveloped, wooded hills and valleys of northern California and southeastern Oregon, which offer the ideal combination of rich soil, sunny climate and isolation.

The profit potential would boggle the mind of a corn farmer. *Sinsemilla*, which means "without seeds" in Spanish, usually fetches

\$1,600 to 2,000 a pound (about \$400 to 1,000 a kilo) for its growers, about three times the street value of most imported marijuana.

A modest garden of 10 healthy plants might yield \$10,000 to 20,000, while big-time operations often bring in hundreds of thousands of dollars.

Harvest time is payoff time for growers, sharecroppers, who work for landowners in exchange for a percentage of the crop, and "trimmers," who separate marketable buds from plants at going rate of \$120 a pound.

Others work throughout the crop year for hourly wages, which are paid in marijuana at the end of the season.

Since pot farming is seasonal and carries risks greater than other types of farming, some growers say they hedge part of their crops by locking in a guaranteed price early in the season, as a would do on a futures market.

In this case, they say, a grower and buyer would do business when the crop is planted. The grower gets capital to work with during the season and the buyer risks his money in exchange for a two-

for-one discount.

Growers boast that their money is keeping some small towns in the area alive, but lawmen maintain that only a fraction of dope proceeds are spent in Humboldt County, where the July jobless rate was 18.1 per cent, nearly twice the national rate.

Humboldt's legitimate industries — logging, commercial fishing and tourism — are severely depressed.

Yet signs of economic vitality abound in Garberville.

The Bank of America branch was recently remodelled to double

the size of its vault, according to manager Jack Swift.

Mr. Swift's predecessor was quoted in the local newspaper last summer as saying that deposits in the previous 18 months grew by \$5.2 million.

An alternative energy store, featuring environmentally clean but uneconomical solar panels that convert sunlight into electricity, has been flourishing here for more than three years. Its proprietor says sales usually jump at harvest time.

A health clinic Garberville raised \$42,000 in a six-month fund-

raising drive that began last November.

Land values have also been bolstered to some extent by the industry in recent years as large ranches were subdivided and more people moved to the rural area, despite its limited job opportunities, according to real estate broker Vernon Bonham.

"Pot has increased the value of some of the property that we could not give away before," says Mr. Bonham.

Even some tourists who come to stroll among the area's giant redwood trees ask to see the mar-

ijuana patches, according to Barbara Wilson of Garberville's tourist information booth. "We just tell them about the big trees," she says.

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Rosberg crowned World Champion

Alboreto of Italy wins his first Grand Prix in Las Vegas

LAS VEGAS (R) — Michele Alboreto of Italy, driving a little-rated Tyrrell car, won his first Grand Prix in Las Vegas Sunday and "Flying Finn" Keke Rosberg became World Champion by finishing fifth.

It was a sad day for John Watson of Northern Ireland, who had powered his McLaren up through the field from ninth place, knowing he had to win to rob Rosberg of the driving championship.

The Briton finished second, unable to grab victory from Alboreto, a 25-year-old Italian newcomer, who gave Tyrrell its first Grand Prix victory for four years.

Rosberg, who had driven a careful race, knowing he had only to finish fifth to collect the title, threw his hands in the air in triumph as he coasted over the finishing line.

The 33-year-old Finn became champion with only one Grand Prix victory in his 51 Formula One races. He won the Swiss Grand Prix this year but three second places helped to give him a final total for the season of 44 points.

Watson finished with 39 points. Niki Lauda of Austria, who needed not only a victory Sunday, but also to win an appeal for the return of four points he forfeited when he was disqualified in the Belgium Grand Prix, retired two-thirds of the way through the race.

A drop in oil pressure in his McLaren robbed him of the chance of becoming World Champion for a third time.

The turbo-charged Renault team of Alain Prost and Rene Arnoux started the last Formula One race of the season in the front two positions.

Prost had the pole position but Arnoux—there has been no love lost between the two since Arnoux refused to step aside and let Prost win the French Grand Prix—quickly slipped into the lead.

Alboreto, lying in third place, took first place in the 52nd lap, after Arnoux was forced out with brake trouble, and stayed in the front for the final 23 laps.

But it was the heroic battle of Watson, trying to grab the victory he so desperately needed, that captured the imagination of the crowd of 32,000.

Blazing sun, which sent the temperature soaring to 31 degrees centigrade, turned the race into what third placed Eddie Cheever of the U.S., driving his last race for Ligier before moving to Renault next season, described as a two-hour sauna bath.

Watson said after the race: "I tried as hard as I could to win. But I slowed down toward the end because I started to feel vibrations in the car, which I assumed was

caused by the tires picking up rubber left on the track.

"I realised there was no point in going after Michele anymore and he built up a lead of about half a minute on me at the end."

Rosberg said he had been content to stay in fifth place. "That

was enough. It was all I needed. There was no need to go up for anything higher to give me the championship," he said.

Alboreto said his car had run perfectly and he would be driving for Tyrrell again next year. "I am just very tired," he said.

World Driving Championship points table for the 1982 season

1. Keke Rosberg	Finland	Williams	44
2. Didier Pironi	Italy	Ferrari	39
3. John Watson	N.Ireland	McLaren	39
4. Alain Prost	France	Renault	34
5. Niki Lauda	Austria	McLaren	30
6. Rene Arnoux	France	Renault	28
7. Patrick Tambay	France	Ferrari	25
8. Michele Alboreto	Italy	Tyrrell	25
9. Elio de Angelis	Italy	Lotus	23
10. Riccardo Patrese	Italy	Brabham	21
11. Nelson Piquet	Brazil	Brabham	20
12. Eddie Cheever	U.S.	Ligier	15
13. Derek Daly	Ireland	Williams	7
14. Nigel Mansell	England	Lotus	7
15. Gilles Villeneuve	Canada	Ferrari	6
16. Carlos Reutemann	Argentina	Williams	6
17. Jacques Laffite	France	Ligier	5
18. Andrea de Cesaris	Italy	Alfa Romeo	5
19. Mario Andretti	U.S.	Ferrari	4
20. Jean-Pierre Jarier	France	Osella	3
21. Marc Surer	Switzerland	Arrows	3
22. Bruno Giacomelli	Italy	Alfa Romeo	2
23. Elio de Angelis	Chile	ATS	2
24. Manfred Winkelhock	W.Germany	ATS	2
25. Mauro Baldi	Italy	Arrows	2
26. Chico Serra	Brazil	Fittipaldi	1

Commission set up to assess Colombia's prospects for staging '86 World Cup

BOGOTA (R) — Colombian Education Minister Jaime Arias Ramirez has installed a government-appointed commission to assess Colombia's prospects for staging the World Soccer Cup in 1986.

The commission, installed Saturday, must deliver its report to President Betancur's government within three weeks, as instructed by the International Football Federation (FIFA), Mr. Arias told reporters.

Some sectors of the Colombian parliament say the World Cup should not be staged in Colombia and that the money should be spent instead on public and social works.

Mr. Betancur said recently he was in favour of Colombia acting as host provided it did not cost the government a single dollar.

Connors to meet McEnroe in Transamerica tennis final

SAN FRANCISCO (R) — Jimmy Connors beat Sandy Mayer, 4-6, 6-2, 6-1, in the semifinals of the \$250,000 Transamerica Tennis Championships Saturday.

Mayer surprised Connors in the first set by playing more from the baseline than usual and caught the reigning Wimbledon and U.S. Open champion off balance.

A series of backhand errors allowed Mayer to break Connors at love in the eighth game of the first set as he went on to take the opener. But from then on, it was all Connors.

Connors will face second-seeded John McEnroe in Sunday's final.

Injuries, thunderstorm dampen Commonwealth Games build-up

BRISBANE (R) — The withdrawal of two more star attractions and a thunderstorm during the opening ceremony dress rehearsal put a dampener on the Commonwealth Games build-up Sunday.

The decision of triple world record-holder Henry Rono of Kenya and men's badminton favourite Misbun Sedek of Malaysia not to compete because of injury left the games organisers wondering who would be next on the list of casualties.

In the absence of unfit British middle-distance runners Steve Ovett and Sebastian Coe, games officials had seen Rono as their main drawcard for the showpiece track and field programme at the Queen Elizabeth II stadium.

News from Nairobi that an ankle injury would prevent Rono defending his 5,000 metres and 3,000 metres steeplechase titles came as a major disappointment to the rest of the Kenyan team.

"It would have been better to have him here with the team even if he couldn't run," Kenyan Athletic Federation Chairman Sam Ongeri said. "We've got some very good medal chances without him, it's just that his mere presence gives a lift to the other competitors," he added.

A 5,000 clash between Rono and Britain's Dave Moorcroft, who smashed the Kenyan's 5,000 metres world record by nearly six seconds in July, had been expected to be the big event of the games.

Ongeri said Peter Koech, the third fastest 5,000 metres runner of all time, would now be Kenya's main medal hope over the distance.

Misbun's withdrawal dealt a major blow to the men's badminton competition. Malaysia's badminton team manager James Selvaraj said he was still troubled by the neck injury he received in last week's World Badminton Cup tournament in Kuala Lumpur.

The opening ceremony dress rehearsal at the Queen Elizabeth II stadium proved more eventful than the organisers had wished.

About 50 of the 5,500 children taking part in the ceremony fainted or suffered other minor ill-effects while waiting in blazing sunshine for the rehearsal to begin. Temperatures reached 26 degrees centigrade.

The intense heat was followed by an equally severe thunderstorm which drenched the participants and the 20,000 relatives watching them—and also gave skydiver Rick Collins a nasty scare.

Collins, one of seven parachutists rehearsing a skydiving display was battered by hailstones the size of tennis balls when he was caught in the thunderstorm after jumping from a light aircraft.

He was forced up nearly 3,000 metres above the stadium and had to sever his main parachute rather than risk going higher. Collins free-fell down to 450 metres and completed his descent with his reserve chute.

He landed more than five kilometres from the stadium but suffered only facial bruising caused by the hailstones and did not need hospital treatment.

Meanwhile games officials managed to clarify a mix-up over documents which resulted in two Nigerian weightlifters being kept in quarantine in Sydney after the team arrived in Australia on Friday. The pair have now been cleared by the Australian health authorities and are scheduled to arrive in Brisbane Monday.

Brisbane also saw one of the biggest aboriginal demonstrations ever held in Australia when about 3,000 aborigines and their white supporters marched through the city to focus international attention on their demands for land rights.

Watanabe to defend WBA title

HAMAMATSU, Japan (R) — Jiro Watanabe of Japan will defend his World Boxing Association (WBA) super-flyweight title against compatriot Shoji Oguma here on Nov. 11, it was announced Sunday.

Watanabe, 27, made his first defence of the title in July when he beat Argentina's Gustavo Ballas in Osaka, western Japan.

Oguma, the former World Boxing Council (WBC) flyweight champion, moved up to super-flyweight after losing his crown to Mexico's Antonio Avelar in May last year.

Lendl, Curren meet in final

INGLEWOOD, California (R) — Kevin Curren of South Africa, relying on a serve which produced 10 aces, beat American Van Winitsky, 7-5, 6-3, Saturday night to play top-seeded Ivan Lendl in the final of a \$300,000 tennis tournament.

Seventh seed Curren, 24, a doubles specialist who won the recent U.S. Open Championships with Steve Denton, will be seeking his first major title when he goes against the Czechoslovak Sunday.

Soviets dominate heavyweight classes at World Weightlifting Championships

LIUBLJANA, Yugoslavia (R) — Soviet lifters dominated the 100kg and heavyweight (110kg) categories at the World Weightlifting Championships here Sunday taking gold and silver medals in both and breaking two world records.

The number of world records broken at the championships now stands at 13. Yuri Zakharevich lifted 195.5kg in the 100kg snatch, beating his own world mark of 195kg, but he was beaten to the gold medal by fellow countryman Victor Sots, who ended the day 2.5kg ahead on 425kg.

Sergei Arakelov took the heavyweight (110kg) title and set a new world record with an extra attempt in the jerk, when he lifted 241.5kg and wiped out the previous mark of 241kg set by Alexander Borisenok, also of the Soviet Union.

Arakelov had a close tussle with compatriot Viacheslav Klokodov for the heavyweight title. Both men finished on 427.5kg but Arakelov won on lighter bodyweight.

Leon Kaplun, who is not long out of junior ranks and has a best total of 435kg, is named as the Soviet second string.

Australians had no answer to Pakistan's spinner Qadir

KARACHI (R) — Leg spinner Abdul Qadir snapped up five wickets and put Pakistan within sight of victory over Australia in the first cricket test Sunday.

Australia, 135 behind on first innings, tumbled to 123 for seven in their second innings by the close of the fourth day of the five-day match.

The touring team has no answer to Qadir's well-flighted leg breaks and googlies as they crashed to 73 for seven at one stage and faced the prospect of an innings defeat with a day to spare in the opening match of the three-test series. But wicketkeeper Rodney

Marsh and left arm spinner Ray Bright checked the collapse with an unfinished eighth wicket stand of 50 which left Australia still 12 behind with three wickets in hand.

Qadir took five for 44 in 20 overs, including a spell of three for seven in five overs, while left arm spinner Iqbal Qasim helped to sustain the pressure with one wicket after captain Imran Khan made the initial breakthrough with the new ball.

Qadir also played a useful role as a batsman when Pakistan resumed their first innings at 330 for six after Saturday's rest day. The leg spinner scored 29 and shared a ninth wicket stand of 51 with Mudassar Nazar.

Mudassar, who was unable to open as usual because of a bruised shin and came in at the fall of the fourth wicket, was unbeaten on 52 when Pakistan declared at lunch on 419 for nine in reply to Australia's 284 all out.

Australia were quickly in trouble when they started their second innings after the interval when Imran sent back opener Bruce Laird for three with the total 10.

After 12 overs with the new ball Imran brought on Qadir and Qasim and the change quickly paid off.

Qadir destroyed the cream of Australia's batting, dismissing Graeme Wood, John Dyson, Allan Border, Kim Hughes and Bruce Yardley as the touring side slumped from 20 for one to 73 for seven.

Qasim took the wicket of the last specialist batsman, new test cap Greg Ritchie, as Australia lost three wickets for one run at one stage and plunged to 73 for seven about an hour before the close.

However, Marsh, top scorer with an unbeaten 26, and Bright threw caution to the wind and carried the attack to the bowlers in their half century stand at a run a minute.

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5. For the minimum price of JD 7,500, the advertiser will have published an advertisement of three centimetres on two columns, which will have a maximum of 30 words, including the headline and telephone numbers to be called. The JD 7,500 charge is for one insertion; two insertions cost JD 15, three insertions cost JD 22,500 etc.
6. For a larger ad, the rates are JD 10 for 40 words and JD 12,500 for 50 words.
7. You can take advantage of the Jordan Times advertising by mail facility by completing the form below and mailing it with full payment in cash or cheque to:

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ECONOMY

Egypt announces new code of regulations

CAIRO (R) — Foreign companies considering investment in Egypt have been told they can now have majority control over joint ventures and have been promised firm decisions on their investment proposals within 60 days of making an offer to Egypt.

The guarantees are contained in a new code of regulations announced at the weekend by Egypt's newly-appointed Investment Minister Wafiq Shihab and aimed at attracting more foreign capital and eliminating bureaucratic delays.

Mr. Shihab, who was appointed to the new portfolio earlier this month after President Hosni Mubarak sacked the economic ministerial group, held a weekend press conference: "The foreign investment offers submitted to Egypt this year are far less than ... it received in 1981."

The minister, who left for Washington Sunday to explain the new regulations, declined to say how much less foreign capital was offered, but he did say the investment slowdown had worsened since the assassination of President Anwar Sadat last October.

Western experts noted that Egypt's foreign investment regulations have perpetuated uncertainty since their enactment in 1974, because while foreign majority control was not explicitly forbidden, it was blocked in almost all cases.

"Western businessmen applying for 51 per cent ownership of their projected ventures were turned down in almost all cases before the new regulations," one expert said.

Foreign majority control was only allowed in the free trade zones in Port Said and Alexandria. The package announced by Mr. Shihab also contained measures to eliminate long delays caused by elaborate procedures to decide whether or not a foreign investment proposal was desirable.

Under the new regulations, Egyptian authorities have 60 days to accept or reject investment offers, after which the foreign investor has the automatic right to go ahead with the project.

In an attempt to encourage Egyptians to invest more money in their own country, Mr. Shihab announced that Egyptian investors would enjoy similar privileges to those given to foreign businessmen, including five to seven year exemption from commercial and industrial taxes.

He said Egyptians should have the courage to invest the \$5 billion in foreign currency they hold in Egyptian banks.

Most of the money is believed to come from Egyptian workers abroad who last year sent home some \$3 billion.

ICO limits coffee exports

LONDON (R) — Coffee-producing nations, with the backing of consuming countries, agreed early Saturday to continue next year to limit the amount of coffee entering the world market to about the level of the past year.

Against a background of excess supply and sluggish consumer demand, the International Coffee Organisation (ICO) decided at the end of a marathon session in London to fix the total export quota at 56 million bags (a bag is 60 kg) starting next month in an effort to stop world prices slumping.

Many producers are developing countries that rely on export earnings for their economic stability.

Last year's quotas are recognised as having stabilised world prices.

The biggest share of the 56 million bags for 1982-1983 will go to Brazil, the world's largest coffee producer, which will be allowed 15.97 million.

The surplus supply of coffee looks set to continue and even increase and Brazil now expects its crop next year will total around 30 million bags after an unusually warm winter, compared with 17.75 million this year.

Colombia takes the next largest share after Brazil, with a quota of 8.44 million bags.

Then come the African and Malagasy coffee organisations, which includes the Ivory Coast, with 6.20 (million) bags, Indonesia with 2.34, El Salvador with 2.32 and Uganda with 2.30.

Weak sales worry video manufacturers

TOKYO (R) — Japanese Video Tape Recorder (VTR) manufacturers, who supply almost all the machines sold around the globe, are worried that weak sales are cutting profits and forcing them to slash prices.

"The market is facing a situation of oversupply and the key factor now in resolving this price," said Mr. Masura Nishizawa, electronics industry analyst with the research division of Nikko Securities, a major Japanese brokerage firm.

Japan's 10 VTR makers, led by Matsushita (panasonic and national brands), Victor of Japan (JVC) and Sony, dominate the world market with link-ups to American and European producers and together provide 95 per cent of world demand.

But analysts said the boom years that began in the 1970s when at least doubling annual production was normal appear to be over and the current glut could cut down the number of individual manufacturers.

VTR production, described by Sony General Manager Sumio Sano as the driving force of the Japanese electronics industry, rose 11.4 per cent to 9.5 million in 1981 from 4.44 million in 1980.

Yet this year production will show a significantly smaller rise of around 31 per cent to 12.45 million, according to the industry umbrella group, the Electronics Industries Association of Japan, and a lot will be left unsold.

Analysts said slackening demand and due to recession, and rising inventories is encouraging manufacturers to cut prices and accept lower profit margins.

Sony, which derives more than 40 per cent of its total revenue from video equipment sales, reported this week that price competition was a significant factor in a 14.7 per cent drop in earnings to

43.34 billion yen (\$164.4 million) in the nine-month period that ended on July 31.

Revenue from video equipment rose 42 per cent over the same period last year but price competition intensified and put pressure on operating margins, the company said.

Mr. Charles Edmond, Tokyo representative for the London brokerage firm of Hoare Govett, said price is taking over from product differentiation as the main basis for competition among manufacturers in the current VTR market, thus squeezing profits.

"Value figures are slowing down more acutely than volume," Mr. Edmond said, reflecting a need to lower prices to encourage demand.

Mr. Nishizawa believes the scheduled introduction in 1984 of a standardised 8mm video taping unit will provide a fresh boost to profit growth on VTRs, but until then demand will be slowed.

He forecast world demand for VTRs at 10 million this year, which would mean an oversupply of two million that would boost competition and possibly force some of the smaller makers to withdraw from the market over the next two or three years.

"To survive in this industry (VTR manufacturers) must get a 10 per cent market share," Mr. Nishizawa said. "If they haven't got 10 per cent they cannot make a profit."

Over the long term, analysts predict that the video market will expand strongly along roughly similar growth paths to colour television and stereo.

Nomura Research Institute forecasts that by 1990 at least 60 per cent of households in the affluent industrial countries will own a VTR, equal to the penetration level achieved by colour television in 1980.

FORECAST FOR MONDAY, SEPT. 27, 1982

YOUR DAILY Horoscope from the Carroll Righter Institute

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Early morning confusion and deception is soon brushed away by planetary influence which results in progressive ideas. A valuable ally now is precious time, so don't waste it.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Be more willing to listen to the views of a dynamic friend who can help you gain your personal aims. Strive for happiness.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) You have weird hunches early in the day. Discard them and go after your true goals. Plan your future wisely.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) You have ideas in the morning that need careful study before you do anything about them. Keep active and happy.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to July 21) Messages you receive may not be as you want them, but you can benefit by adopting a better attitude.

LEO (July 22 to Aug. 21) Don't take on more monetary burdens in the morning. In the afternoon you can come to a fine agreement with associates.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Your ideas are not the best early in the day so be careful in what you do. Obey every rule that applies to you.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Attend to important work first instead of thinking of pleasure. You can gain fine benefits. Express your finest talents.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Take time late in the day to engage in recreations that are not expensive. Show friends how much you appreciate them.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) There are many conditions at home that require more thought and understanding to improve. Guard your reputation.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) You are in the mood to change present setup, but curb it for best results in the long run. Don't break any promises.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Hunches are not good early in the day but later they could prove helpful in gaining your aims. Be very tactful.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) You may have personal annoyances that are best not confided in others. Take time to improve health and appearance.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY... he or she should be taught to be more objective in life for best results. Be sure to send your progeny to the right schools early in life. Don't neglect religious training. Sports are good to teach fair play.

"The Stars impel, they do not compel." What you make of your life is largely up to you!

London's futures market opens on Thursday

LONDON (R) — London adds another string to its financial bow this week when it launches a futures market which will allow money to be traded like a commodity.

The London Financial Futures Exchange (LFFE), on which currencies and interest rate contracts can be bought and sold for delivery at a future date, opens its doors for business on Thursday.

Backers of the new venture, which will be housed in the 400-year-old Royal Exchange building close to the Bank of England in the heart of London's financial district, hope the market will give a further boost to the earnings and prestige of London as the world's leading financial centre.

Although futures trading is a well-established practice on the world's commodity markets, particularly in Chicago, LFFE will be the first financial futures market in Europe.

A futures contract allows a trader to buy or sell a commodity for a set price at a specified date in the future. As a result he can "hedge", or protect himself, against market movements, or else seek to make a profit by gambling on which way the market will go.

London takes its cue from Chicago where the International Monetary Market (IMM) began trading financial futures in 1972.

Crisis afflicting Latin America reaches Ecuador

QUITO (R) — The financial crisis afflicting much of Latin America is now reaching Ecuador, which has a foreign debt totalling at least \$6.3 billion and, like Mexico, asking to delay repayments on some loans.

Net international reserves have fallen from \$560 million at the end of last year to \$320 million—a level described by one foreign diplomat as dangerously low as it represents less than the cost of two months' imports.

The cash crisis, according to banking and diplomatic sources, is due to weak oil prices, high world interest rates and what one called

"a wild borrowing spree since 1978 based on over-ambitious predictions of oil earnings."

Mr. Jose Antonio Correa, who heads the monetary board in charge of financial policy, said talks had begun with the main foreign creditor banks to give the country a breathing space.

A total of \$850 million, due for repayment this year and next, must be renegotiated, he said. But banking sources put Ecuador's total commitments over the period at around \$1 billion, taking into account maturing medium-term loans.

The country's balance of payments deficit, which was \$1 billion

last year, could reach \$1.4 billion in 1982, the sources said.

Ecuador's public sector foreign debt stands at \$5.2 billion and the private sector debt, some of it unregistered, totals at least \$1.1 billion, official statistics show.

But with assistance from the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the cooperation of international commercial banks, Ecuador should be able to overcome its short-term foreign debt difficulties, according to the sources.

Ecuador, a junior member of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), currently sells 60,000 barrels a day of crude oil, which represents more than 60 per cent of exports but is sharply down on previous years due to the world glut.

Until the beginning of this month the country's Oil Minister Eduardo Ortega was president of OPEC. He resigned his cabinet

post when the Concentration of Popular Forces (CPF) party pulled out of the coalition government, leaving vacant the oil and finance portfolios.

The new finance minister appointed by President Osvaldo Hurtado is textile industrialist Mr. Pedro Pinto Rubianes, who will lead talks with officials of the IMF in Quito from October 20 to discuss the possible granting of emergency credits.

Analysing Ecuador's current difficulties, one foreign banker said they were unnecessary and due to bad borrowing policy.

In the past two years, the government had chosen to take short-term credits from brokers rather than medium-term bank loans carrying a slightly higher rate of interest, he said.

The maturing of these credits at a time of uncertainty on world money markets because of the Falklands war and financial crisis

in other Latin American countries had aggravated the problems, he added.

But bankers said Mr. Correa at the monetary board and Mr. Pinto Rubianes at the finance ministry should be able to put matters right.

Ecuador's quota in the IMF means it could draw about \$118 million from the fund. Diplomatic sources predicted the government would seek to draw about \$60 million and use an agreement with the IMF to gain the confidence of international banks for the rest of its needs.

"A stamp of approval from the IMF would certainly be useful," the representative of a large U.S. bank said.

Provided Ecuador did not quibble too much about interest rates on credit it would probably get what it wanted from the banks, a diplomatic said.

"Something has to be paid for

bad management and increased risk," one banker commented.

Cuts in Ecuador's public spending and the government's announced intention of reducing the budget deficit would probably win IMF approval for drawing on its quota of Special Drawing Rights, the sources said.

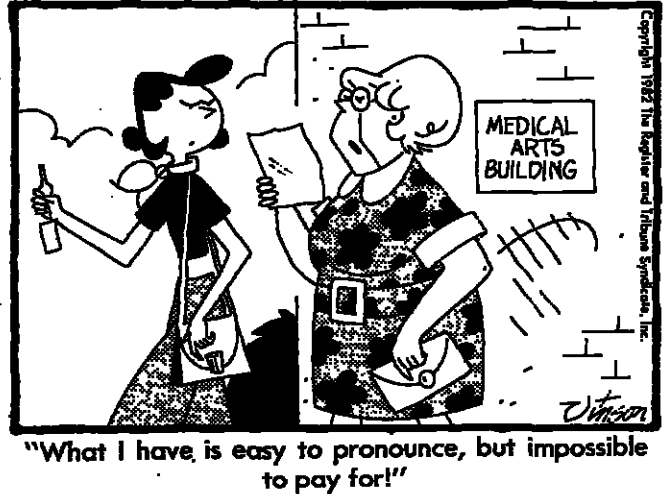
But any extra IMF credits would require tougher conditions which would be politically unpopular, they added.

The government, now forced into a minority in congress, already faces simmering unrest with a two-day general strike called this week to protest against the rise in living costs.

But despite the current problems, bankers unanimously judged the Ecuadorian economy to be sound, pointing to proven oil reserves, a positive growth rate and one of the lowest inflation rates—14.8 per cent last year—in Latin America.

THE BETTER HALF

By Vinson



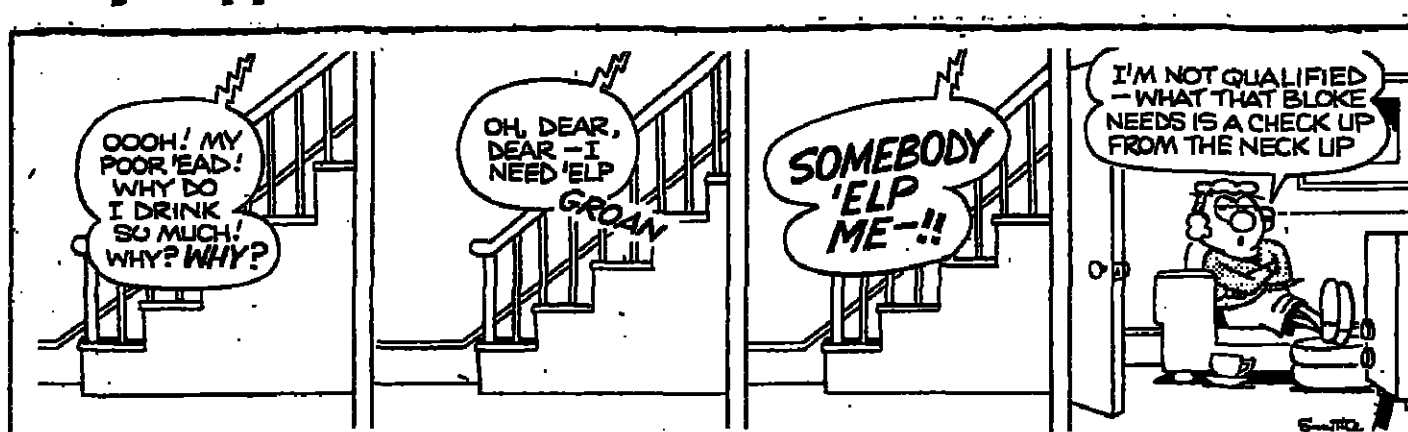
Peanuts



Mutt 'n' Jeff



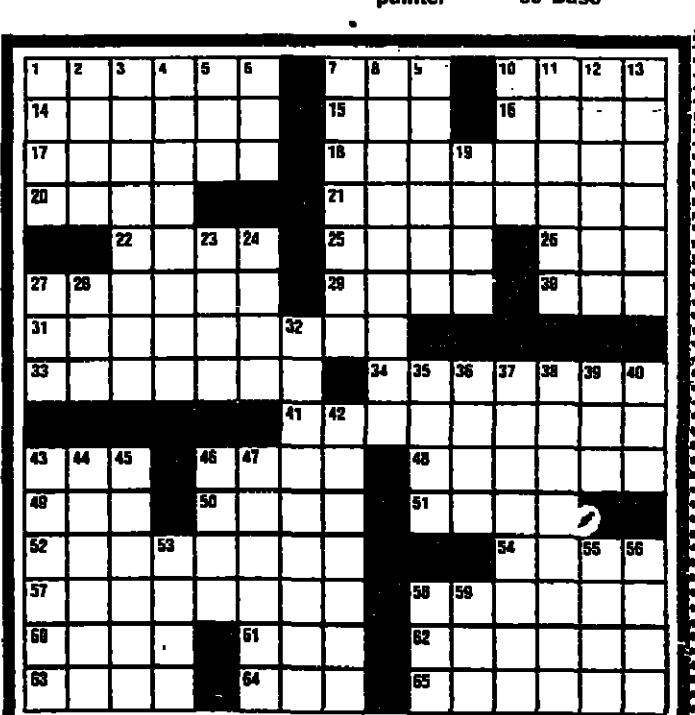
Andy Capp



THE Daily Crossword By Peter Swift

ACROSS	DOWN
1 Exploded	1 Up (gain vigor)
7 High mountain	2 Foreboding
10 Elevator pioneer	3 Remorseful
14 Come out in the open	4 Sham
15 Speed: abbr.	5 Guy
16 Kind of skirt	6 Ruby or Sandra
17 Break a promise	7 Typical
18 Issued	8 Summer libations
20 Join closely	9 Nebraska river
21 Service club member	10 A Bradley painter
22 Sports group	

Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:	DOWN
1. Up (gain vigor)	1. Up (gain vigor)
2. Foreboding	2. Foreboding
3. Remorseful	3. Remorseful
4. Sham	4. Sham
5. Guy	5. Guy
6. Ruby or Sandra	6. Ruby or Sandra
7. Typical	7. Typical
8. Summer libations	8. Summer libations
9. Nebraska river	9. Nebraska river
10. A Bradley painter	10. A Bradley painter



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WORLD

Suzuki holds 1st round of talks with Chinese premier

PEKING (R) — Japanese Prime Minister Zenko Suzuki had two hours of talks with Chinese Premier Zhao Ziyang after arriving Sunday on an official visit both countries hope will help boost their economic links.

Details of the talks were not immediately available. But they were expected to cover the problem of Japanese textbooks glossing over Japan's wartime atrocities in China and bilateral trade, which is beginning to sag after reaching \$10.4 billion last year.

After the talks Mr. Suzuki attended a welcoming banquet hosted by Mr. Zhao.

Textbook issue

But in mid-June, a row erupted over the rewriting of Japanese school history books to gloss over Japanese atrocities against Chinese civilians between 1937 and 1945 when Tokyo's imperial armies overran much of China.

This prompted an official Peking protest at the Japanese education ministry's action and threatened to jeopardise Mr. Suzuki's visit, designed to mark the 10th anniversary of the restoration of diplomatic ties.

Earlier this month a compromise was reached under which Japan

pledged to issue a statement to teachers aimed at placating the Chinese, who remain uneasy over the issue.

Neither side wants the textbooks affair to dominate the visit, but Japanese sources said Mr. Suzuki would discuss it in his first round of talks Sunday with Premier Zhao to try to set a positive tone for the rest of his trip.

On Wednesday, the anniversary itself, Mr. Suzuki is due to make a speech designed to reassure the Chinese of Japanese friendship and strengthen mutual trust.

Sino-Soviet ties

Japan is wary about Peking's attitude to Moscow, which has shown limited signs of softening recently.

British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, who was concluding a visit to China Sunday, has said, however, that she believed there had been no fundamental change in China's policy towards the Kremlin.

But she confirmed that new exploratory Sino-Soviet contacts were due to take place in Peking early next month.

Since Sino-Japanese relations were restored in 1972, trade between Japan and China has grown tenfold, reaching a record \$10 billion last year.

Soviets give priority to Peking

MOSCOW (R) — Soviet President Leonid Brezhnev indicated Sunday that normalisation of relations with China was now the main goal of the Kremlin's policy in Asia.

Speaking in the Caspian Sea port of Baku, Mr. Brezhnev did not mention Soviet-American relations and the Middle East.

But on Asia, he described the achievement of a normalisation and gradual improvement of relations between Moscow and Peking as "very important."

Relations with China should be normalised on a basis of common sense, mutual respect and mutual advantage which would serve

peace and stability in Asia and the rest of the world, Mr. Brezhnev said.

Moscow has been making serious efforts since last spring to improve relations with China. Mr. Brezhnev's description of normalisation with Peking as very important suggested the Kremlin was now giving it top priority.

Mr. Brezhnev said his talks in Moscow last week with Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi showed the views of the two sides coincided or were close on fundamental questions of the international situation.

He said Moscow wanted developing countries to play a bigger

Greek, Turkish aides to meet

ATHENS (R) — Greek Foreign Minister Yiannis Karamanolis will meet his Turkish counterpart, Ilter Turkmen, in Canada on Saturday in the first ministerial contact between the two countries since Prime Minister Andreas Papandreu came to power, an authoritative source said Sunday.

The foreign minister, who left Athens for New York Sunday to attend the autumn session of the U.N. General Assembly, will fly to Ottawa after he addresses the assembly next Thursday. The source said the talks with Turkey's foreign minister would be aimed at easing differences between the two countries.

Columbus court mishap cleared up

COLUMBUS, Ohio (R) — William Jackson, 30, who spent four years in prison erroneously convicted of raping two women, has been freed after it was discovered he was the wrong man.

Earlier in the week a Franklin county grand jury returned a 94-count indictment against Dr. Edward F. Jackson, 38, a Columbus internist. The indictment lists 36 rapes, including two for whom William Jackson was convicted by a jury in 1978.

The two Jacksons are not related but both are of similar size and appearance.

Labour Party tries to purge extremists

BLACKPOOL, England (R) — Michael Foot's leadership of Britain's labour opposition faces a major test Monday as he seeks his party's approval for a purge of extreme left-wingers.

Mr. Foot, 69, is staking his political reputation on winning massive support at Labour's annual conference here for a purge which he hopes will end two years of bitter feuds between the centre-left leadership and the radical left wing.

Less than two years since his election as leader after a lifetime's career as a fiery champion of the left, Mr. Foot is struggling to re-establish his credibility and authority.

An opinion poll published Sunday in the conservative Sunday Telegraph newspaper indicated

that more than half his party's supporters want him to resign the leadership.

Arrayed against him in the row over the planned purge are prominent left-wingers, led by radical Socialist Tony Benn, who have warned that a "witch hunt" would spark civil war within the party.

Political sources say it could be Labour's last chance to put its house in order in time for the next election, which many suspect is likely to be called in October next year.

The conference, on its first day at this popular seaside resort on the northwest coast of England, will be under pressure to accept a register of approved organisations.

Militant Tendency, described by Mr. Foot as a "pestilential nu-

sance" and by Labour moderates as a party within the party, would be excluded.

Mr. Foot is counting on the support of the big trades unions which are affiliated to the Labour Party, fund its activities and cast large block-votes during conference proceedings.

The National Union of Mineworkers Saturday defied their left-wing leader Arthur Scargill and decided to throw their weight behind Mr. Foot.

Delegates representing the transport and general workers' union, Britain's biggest with 1.25 million members, were meeting to decide whether to go along with its executive council, which voted narrowly to oppose a register, or support their leader Mostyn Evans, who backs Mr. Foot.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES E. GOREN
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DEAR MR. GOREN

Q.—You have been my "guru" for so, these many years, so now I am turning to you for advice. There is considerable dissension in our group as to which suit you bid when you have two four-card suits — do you start with the higher-ranking one or the lower-ranking one? — L. Booker, Atlanta, Ga.

(This question has been awarded the weekly prize.)

A.—Your question is incomplete — do you mean as opening bidder or as responder? Are the two suits touching, or are they not? These questions materially affect the reply.

If the suits are touching, you should invariably open the higher ranking of the two. If they are not touching, open the suit below the shortest suit in your hand; partner is likely to respond in that suit and then you can rebid in your second suit. If your suits are spades and clubs, it will usually keep the bidding a level lower if you open one club, since clubs will always be the suit below your shortness.

In responding, different criteria apply. Perhaps the most important consideration is whether your hand is worth two forward-going bids or not; is it strong enough to try for game, or a weak hand worth only one bid? Here's a rule of thumb: if the hand is worth only one constructive bid, it is usually better to bid your lower-ranking suit, but don't suppress a good four-card major. If your hand is worth two bids, bid your higher-ranking suit first to give yourself an

easy rebid; if you are strong enough to insist on game, it is usually better to bid your lower-ranking suit first.

Thus, assume that partner opens the bidding with one club and you hold:

a) ♠ K Q x x b) ♠ Q x x x
 ♠ A J x x ♠ A x x x
 ♥ x x x ♥ x x x
 ♦ x x x ♦ x x x

With hand a, you have the values for two constructive bids, so respond one spade and show your hearts next, unless partner raises. Hand b, however, is too weak for two forward-going actions, so you should respond one heart.

Q.—Can honors be claimed if they are split between declarer's hand and dummy? Are the defenders entitled to honors if one of them holds four in my trump suit? When should honors be claimed?

A.—This question is a composite of the hundreds of letters we have received about problems in scoring honors, so I will answer them all in one.

To earn the honor bonus, the honors must all be in one hand — they cannot be split between declarer and dummy, for instance. Any player who has four or five honors in the trump suit, be it declarer, dummy or either defender, is entitled to the honors bonus. And you can claim honors at any time until the rubber is scored. However, if you do not claim them before the cards of that deal have been mixed, you receive the bonus only if the opponents agree that you held them. And the best time to claim honors is immediately after the completion of the hand, when your claim can be checked. If you claim them during the play, you are revealing your holding unnecessarily.

U.S. aide warned not to raise Cuban issue while in Angola

LISBON (R) — A senior U.S. official arrived in Angola Saturday night for talks on the future of Namibia (South West Africa) and the thorny issue of U.S. recognition of the Luanda government, according to the official Angolan news agency Agop.

Deputy Assistant Secretary of State Frank Wisner said on arrival that the aim of his visit was to "try to find a peaceful solution for southern Africa," Angop said in a dispatch received in Lisbon.

Mr. Wisner, who has made four visits to Angola in three months,

would have talks with foreign Minister Paulo Jorge on the future of Namibia and relations between the United States and Angola, Angop added.

The official Mozambique news agency AIM quoted Mr. Jorge Saturday as saying that he was not optimistic about an imminent independence settlement for Namibia.

Toughness is a key theme throughout the book. Mr. Nixon says he was appalled by the West German reaction to the Polish crisis and disappointed by their attitude towards détente.

Japanese arms industry grows as defence needs expand

By Toshio Kojima
Reuters

TOKYO — The Japanese armaments industry, dismantled after the country's defeat in World War II, is growing again as the country expands its military role in the Pacific.

Japan's post-war constitution renounces war as part of government policy, yet it maintains a 240,000-member defence force armed with some of the world's most advanced weapons systems, most designed or made under licence by domestic firms.

But it remains government policy not to export arms and even a recent request by the United States, its major ally and arms supplier, for technical information on Japanese-designed weapons is being treated warily.

In the next five years, the Japanese Defence Council, the government's major decision-making body, estimates defence spending at between 15,600 billion and 16,400 billion yen (\$60 billion to \$63 billion).

The bill for weapons procurements is set at an estimated 4,400 billion to 4,600 billion yen (\$16.92 billion to \$17.70 billion).

To help match the recent expansion of Soviet naval and air forces in Asia, the United States has been asking Japan to raise its mil-

itary strength so that it would be able to defend sea lanes 1,600 kilometres out from the Japanese shoreline.

The plan calls for Japan to equip itself with 75 F-15 Eagle jet fighters, 50 P-3C Orion anti-submarine patrol aircraft, 14 new destroyers and six submarines. There are also plans to increase armoured forces with 373 new tanks.

At the end of the coming five years, the navy is expected to consist of 178 ships, including 60 destroyers, 15 submarines, 33 minesweepers and 185 operation aircraft, including 72 Orions.

The air force would be operating 395 aircraft, flying 138 Eagles and nine E2C Grumman Hawkeye airborne radar planes and armed with a range of new high-altitude surface-to-air missiles to replace an ageing line of Nike-3a ordnance.

The army's future strength is assessed at 1,314 Type-74 Japanese-designed tanks, 796 armoured personnel carriers, 2,193 artillery pieces, 418 aircraft and eight low-altitude surface-to-air missile groups joined by 57 similar groups with a shorter range.

The government also intends to acquire a Base Air Defence Ground Environment (BADGE) system able automatically to identify aircraft and trigger any nec-

Mrs. Thatcher given low-key welcome by Hong Kong leaders

HONG KONG (R) — Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher arrived Sunday for the first visit by a British head of government in Hong Kong's 140-year colonial history and was given a subdued welcome which surprised many people.

Mrs. Thatcher, who flew in after crucial talks with Chinese leaders on the future of Hong Kong, was met at Kai Tak airport by the British colony's governor, Sir Edward Youde, and a few other senior officials.

There were no ceremonies and the prime minister was quickly led out of the airport and into a waiting limousine before she had a chance even to turn and wave to the scores of waiting reporters and cameramen.

Many local newsmen were visibly upset and some said authorities should have put on a better show for the first visit by a British prime minister.

But other local sources at the airport said authorities probably wanted to keep ceremonies at a low key because of the sensitive nature of the talks on the colony's future, which includes China's claim to sovereignty over the whole of Hong Kong.

Her main personal contact with the local population will be when she visits a vast housing estate in the new territories on Tuesday before leaving for New Delhi later the same night.

Mrs. Thatcher agreed with Chinese leaders in Peking that the two countries should begin talks immediately at diplomatic level on the question of what happens after 1997, when much of Hong Kong's land area is due to revert to China.

End of an era

PEKING (R) — Margaret Thatcher Sunday ended the first visit to China by a serving British prime minister after being told firmly by Chinese leaders that they intend to recover sovereignty over Hong Kong.

But she left for the British colony on the South China coast having won Chinese agreement to hold talks on Hong Kong's future, with the stated common aim of maintaining its prosperity and stability.

London hopes the negotiations, initially through diplomatic channels, will persuade Peking that some form of continued British administration is necessary to guarantee the prosperity of the bustling free port of five million people.

Mrs. Thatcher, mindful of potential disruption to the colony's financial markets if the present uncertainty drags on, said the talks would start straightaway and be concluded as soon as possible.

She also stressed at a press conference before she left for brief

visits to Shanghai and Canton on her way to Hong Kong that the talks would be held in secrecy.

Western diplomatic sources said they would probably start within a month or sooner in Peking. Nothing could be done until Mrs. Thatcher returned to London, they said.

One source said it was likely they would involve the British ambassador in Peking, Sir Percy Cradock, and Deputy Foreign Minister Zhang Wenjin, head of the ministry's West Europe Department.

As they progressed, the talks might also involve China's ambassador in London, Ke Hua, and British officials there.

The governor of Hong Kong, Sir Edward, was always able to have less formal contacts with Chinese representatives in the colony, but the sources said it was unlikely substantive discussions would be held there.

The talks would be complicated and could take months or possibly even two to three years, depending on how flexible the Chinese were willing to be, the sources said.

The Chinese do not accept the validity of any of the three treaties imposed under duress on the crumbling Manchu empire in the 19th Century after China lost the opium wars and Hong Kong was handed to the British.

Nixon gives tantalising glimpses of world leaders in revealing book

NEW YORK (R) — The late President Anwar Sadat thought Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin was "crazy as a fox" — but the only man who could have made peace with Egypt.

And former U.S. President Richard Nixon, who tells the story in a candid new book called Leaders, agreed with Mr. Sadat that Mr. Begin was "irresponsible" in ordering a pre-emptive strike on an Iraqi nuclear reactor.

In a wealth of anecdote about top statesmen he met during his political career, Mr. Nixon says he found Soviet leaders generally boorish, recent West German leaders weak, former Soviet leader Nikita Khrushchev vulgar and Mao Tse-tung's wife the coldest and most graceless person he ever met.

Leaders, due for publication next month, is also a book filled with superheroes — among them Winston Churchill, Charles de Gaulle and Konrad Adenauer.

Recounting his last conversation with Mr. Sadat a few months before his assassination in August 1981, Mr. Nixon says he told the Egyptian leader he felt Mr. Begin acted "irresponsibly" in ordering Israel's air attack on the Iraqi reactor.

"He (Sadat) blurted out 'yes, he's crazy,' He added 'crazy like a fox.'"

But the former U.S. president says Sadat added that he liked to deal with Mr. Begin because "he is very tough" and could make a deal that other Israelis were not strong enough to bring off.

Toughness is a key theme throughout the book. Mr. Nixon says he was appalled by the West German reaction to the Polish crisis and disappointed by their attitude towards détente.

He quotes Adenauer on the other hand as telling him: "I am tired and frightened by this talk of détente."

He says Adenauer warned him about the Russians: "Make no mistake about it, they want the world. The whole world. Most of all they want Europe. And to get Europe they know they must destroy Germany..."

Mr. Nixon shows distaste — and professional respect — for the Soviet leaders he came in contact with. He says of Khrushchev: "that he was the devil incarnate, many would concede. That he was an ominously able devil, few could dispute."

"Fresh horse shit"

He says Khrushchev bullied him in meetings and once said coarsely: "This resolution stinks. It stinks like fresh horse shit, and nothing smells worse than that." Mr. Nixon says that looking straight into Khrushchev's eyes he replied that pig manure was even worse.

Mr. Nixon asserts he was able to achieve a working relationship with Khrushchev's successor Leonid Brezhnev which became the closest between leaders of the two super-powers since Stalin and Roosevelt.

Implicitly criticising President Reagan, Mr. Nixon says it is vital for Soviet and Russian leaders to get to know each other, although he says he was once so verbally assaulted by Mr. Brezhnev and aides that he felt he was being grilled by the KGB.

On the personal side, Mr. Nixon says Mr. Brezhnev had a penchant for non-Communist style luxury that included taking an attractive woman masseuse with him to a Camp David summit.

He describes the Soviet leader as warm and friendly one moment, waxing about "being an emotional man, particularly about death in war," and then being tough as nails.

Recalling how Mr. Brezhnev threatened to put Soviet troops into the Middle East during the 1973 war there, stopping when Mr. Nixon put American nuclear forces on alert, he comments: "Today the threat would not be credible because superiority has shifted to the Soviets in both theatre and strategic and land-based missiles."

The former president attacks the idea of a nuclear freeze and says: "It is time for us to use our massive economic power to affect the international behaviour of the Soviet Union."

"We may be behind in some areas militarily, but we have a huge advantage economically. They desperately need their trade with us and this gives us leverage."

The Communist leader who seems to have impressed Mr. Nixon most was former Chinese Premier Chou Enlai, whom he describes as "his country's Metetrich, Molotov and Dulles. He never felt it necessary, as the Russian leaders so obviously did, to prove his manhood before his aides."

Of the prominent Chinese he met during his 1972 visit to China, the one who impressed him the least was Jiang Qing, Mao Tse-tung's wife, of whom Mr. Nixon says: "I never met a more cold, graceless person."

Mr. Nixon spends several pages defending the late Shah of Iran and accuses the United States of letting him down. He says the Shah made the fatal mistake of not being ruthless enough.

NEWS IN BRIEF

U.S. public opinion shifts towards Arabs

NEW YORK (R) — Public support for Israel in the United States has fallen in the past year and the nation's sympathies are now almost evenly divided between Jews and Arabs, according to an opinion poll Saturday. The poll, conducted by Newsweek magazine, shows that 32 per cent of those questioned said their sympathies lay with Israel, while 28 per cent said they lay with the Arab nations.

Jokes mandatory at Rajneeshpuram

RAJNEESHPURAM, Oregon (R) — Town councillors have passed a resolution making joking mandatory at every council meeting. At least one councillor must tell a joke at the start and end of each meeting and any of Rajneeshpuram's 500 citizens who wants to tell a joke during public debate may do so. But no joke may be told more than once.

Iranian Mujahadeen step up attacks

LONDON (R) — The Iranian left-wing People's Mujahadeen organisation said Sunday its forces had killed seven revolutionary guards in a clash in western Iran. The Paris office of the Mujahadeen told Reuters by telephone that the clash took place near the town of Sardasht, close to the Iran-Iraq border, on Sept. 18. The Mujahadeen said the "forces of resistance" had killed three senior members of Iran's security forces in the three provincial towns of Rasht, Arak and Sanandaj in the past 10 days.

At least 30 hurt in Manchester blasts

MANCHESTER, England (R) — Hundreds of people ran for their lives during Saturday night when a string of explosions wrecked a warehouse packed with chemicals and showered a city centre with shards of glass and red hot iron girders. Officials said at least 30 people were injured, most of them cut by flying glass, in the explosion and fire in Salford, part of Greater Manchester.

Human rights team ends Guatemalan visit

GUATEMALA CITY (R) — An international human rights team wound up a five-day visit to Guatemala Saturday, and said it would release the results of its investigation by November. Marco Monroy, the head of a team from the Organisation of American States (OAS), told reporters that they had enjoyed absolute liberty to talk to people in Guatemala.

Explosives found at Manila Intercon

MANILA (R) — An incendiary device has been found at a big Manila hotel for the fourth time in less than a week, police said Sunday. They said the device, consisting of gasoline, gunpowder, battery and timer, was discovered on Friday under a sofa at the Manila Intercontinental's "Where else" disco bar. The Bulletin Today newspaper said the house's occupant was alleged to have "confessed" that he and others planted a device found by a cleaner at the Manila garden hotel last Thursday.

Mexico protests to Guatemala about border incidents

MEXICO CITY (R) — Mexico has protested to Guatemala about border incidents last month in which it said Guatemalan troops shot at Mexicans nationals, on one occasion killing three people. The foreign ministry said that Guatemalan troops firing across the border shot and killed two Mexican peasants and their hired Guatemalan labourer on Aug. 31. Guatemalan troops intruded 500 metres into Mexican territory on Aug. 3 and shot at a geographic team marking the border between the two countries, the ministry added.

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